

# BARRE GAZETTE

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## Fire destroys Barre vacant house

By Ellenor Downer  
Staff writer

BARRE – On Thursday at 5:22 p.m., April 8 Rutland Regional Emergency Communications Center started receiving numerous calls for a reported building fire in the area of 851 West St. according to the Barre Fire Department Face book page. RRECC dispatched a first alarm assignment.

Barre Engines 4, 1, 6, 5, ladder 1, Rescue 1 and ambulance 2 responded to the fire. Hubbardston E2, Rutland Tanker 1 and North Brookfield Rapid Intervention Team responded to the first alarm. Mutual aid towns coming to the aid of Barre with the second alarm were Paxton, Westminster and Athol engines, Gardner ladder truck and tankers from Hardwick, Petersham, New Braintree and Oakham. Since the fire location was outside of the town hydrant zone, firefighters established a tanker shuttle and set water bags up at the intersection of Winship Road and Jackson Lane. The Barre Fire Department Face book post said, “This was the first time the new non-hydrant district alarm was used since being implemented.”

5C3 arrived on scene at 1000 West St. and found a fully involved 1½-story wood frame vacant dwelling along with numerous vehicles, campers and brush in the yard. Heavy smoke was visible from the Station One.

Barre E4 and incoming companies mounted a defense attack and a second alarm was called. All companies on the scene worked on extinguishment and overhaul. Due to the amount of contents located within the dwelling, the fire department had an excavator brought in to assist with overhaul and to render the building safe. Overhaul is the process of searching for hidden fire extension on a fire scene. It is used in conjunction with salvage operations to reduce loss cause by



Turley Publications Photos by Ellenor Downer

This property on 1000 West St., Barre was the scene of a two-alarm fire last Thursday, April 9.

fire. Overhaul is one of the last steps in the firefighting process.

In addition to the fully involved house, the fire also spread to three campers, four cars, a shed, a trailer and an area of brush. All were a total loss. The cause of the fire has not been determined and the fire is currently under investigation of the Barre Fire Department, Barre Police Department and the State Troopers assigned to the State Fire Marshals office.

A 1½ story wood frame vacant dwelling, a shed and numerous vehicles, campers and brush located in Barre were a total loss.



## Outgoing selectman offers suggestion list

By Ellenor Downer  
Staff Writer

BARRE – Outgoing selectman Matthew Urban offered a list of nine items for the selectboard to consider at his last meeting Monday, April 5.

Selectman Urban opted to not seek re-election and instead ran for a term on the planning board in the April 5 election. His first bullet on the list was to purchase a hybrid vehicle if there was additional funding. The second one was to provide 50% credit of town fees paid by businesses in 2020 and 2021 as an economic development incentive. The third one was to put money aside each year for the town's 250th anniversary in 2024. The fourth one was to check in for an update with the 911 Memorial Committee.

The fifth bullet was to check with town counsel regarding a loan program to hook up cable for those not served. The sixth one was to review marijuana bylaws and set up fees. The seventh one was the choose an administration or finance policy, review and make changes. The eighth one was to create a budget within the levy capacity available and to make it work without a tax increase. The final bullet, which he mentioned at candidate's night, was a bylaw to require major boards and committees such as board of health, conservation commission, department of public works commission and planning board to be recorded.

Urban said the town went through a lot in the last year

and half. It was not just the pandemic, but the town hired a new town administrator. He thanked the town administrator Jessica Sizer and appreciated interim town administrator Heather Monroe for the time she spent here and of course, Andrew Golas. He praised the town accountant, Jean Joel and town clerk, Ellen Glidden. He said he thinks Andrea Mastrototo was extremely crucial for the board of health and building commissioner departments. Selectmen Greg O'Sullivan and Dylan Clark thanked Urban for his service to the town.

### Conservation Commission

Chair of the Conservation Commission Ron Rich said the commission used to be able to use a town vehicle for inspections. He said the commission has about five inspections per week. He asked about using the building commissioner's vehicle. Selectman chair O'Sullivan said the commissioner's electric vehicle was owned by the town of Hardwick and its use by the building commissioner was part of the contract with the four towns, which were part of a regional agreement for a building commissioner. O'Sullivan said he was not sure if the DPW had an available vehicle for conservation to use. He said it might be better to purchase either a small vehicle or pickup truck for use. Selectman Urban suggested purchasing a possible hybrid SUV vehicle, which uses either gas or electricity.

### ID card maker

The fire department recently purchased ID card maker with CARES Act money. It will be

used to make IDs for all town employees.

### Letter of support

The Rutland Board of Selectmen requested a letter of support from the Barre Board of Selectmen requesting the Department of Conservations and Recreation not demolish the remains of the old Rutland Prison Camps on DCR land. Barre selectmen instructed town administrator Sizer to draw up a letter of support to the Rutland Board of Selectmen in its objection to demolition.

### Pole petitions

Selectmen unanimously approved the two National Grid pole petitions for Depot Road. Department of Public Works superintendent Jason Pimental said he was all set with the pole locations.

### Use of town property

Selectmen approved the request of the Barre Lions Club for a boot drive Saturday, May 15 from 9 a.m. to noon. The locations will be Concert Way and by Nornay Park. They also voted to waive the fee. They also approved the use of town hall for Next Step Studio for Performing Arts for April 10 from 9 a.m. to noon and April 29 from 3-8 p.m.

### Appointments

Selectmen appointed Lucy Allen to the Historical Commission to fill the vacancy left by the passing of Lester Paquin. They also appointed Margaret Marshall to fill a second vacancy on the historical commission.

### Other business

Selectmen decided to seek con-

See SELECTMEN, page 7

## Quabbin middle/high school back full-time

By Ellenor Downer  
Staff Writer

BARRE – At the Quabbin Regional School District committee last Thursday, superintendent Sheila Muir said all sixth graders, middle and high school students returned to school full-time and “they were happy to be back in school.”

She said it was a successful transition thanks to all the staff. About 13% continued with remote learning. The sixth grade, middle and high school students spent the school year in a hybrid model of two days in class and three at home remotely until the state education commissioner ordered all students back in the classroom with a full-remote option available.

Superintendent Muir said 6-feet spacing remained in most instances at the elementary level. At the middle/high school, the social distancing between stu-

dents was closer to 4 to 4 ½ feet.

### Director of administrative services

Cheryl Duval, director of administrative services, said the district had \$2.8 million in school choice and \$1 million in circuit breaker money, which would be used toward funding next year's budget. She said the district received grant funding. A Remote Learning Tech grant of \$73,501 and Corona Virus Prevention grant of \$94,762.50 were expended in full, as was a Corona Virus Relief Fund School Reopening of \$431,775.

The district also received a Rural School Aid grant in FY 20 of \$242,602.70 and \$212,419.67 in FY21. Duval said the district also received ESSER grants. The district expended in full an ESSER 1 grant of \$171,150. The deadline to spend the ESSER II grant of \$719,718 was June 30,

See QRSD, page 5

## Ruggles wins seat on select board, sewer commission

By Paula Ouimette  
Staff Writer

HARDWICK – The town of Hardwick held their annual election on Monday, April 12 at Hardwick Elementary School. The only contested races on the ballot were for the three-year term for Board of Selectmen and three-year term for Gilbertville-Wheelwright Sewer Commissioner, both held by incumbent Kenan Young.

Newcomer H. Robert Ruggles received the majority of the votes for selectman with 310, while Young received 203. Ruggles also received the majority of the

votes for sewer commissioner with 292, with Young receiving 212. Ruggles was sworn in as selectman and sewer commissioner after the election. When reached for comment about the election, Ruggles said, “I would like to start by thanking Kenan Young for his years of service to Hardwick. Also, I want to thank everyone for coming out to vote on election day. I am looking forward to these new challenges, and the opportunity to serve the people of Hardwick. The Board will be meeting soon and we can begin to move forward on

See ELECTION, page 6

## USDA puts sewer project on hold

### Emergency meeting held

By Paula Ouimette  
Staff Writer

HARDWICK –The town received a notice from the USDA last week announcing the nearly \$30 million sewer project would be put on hold because the town has been unable to have Eagle Hill School agree to take a \$1.8 million buy-out to end the sewer agreement between the two parties.

After receiving notification the project was now on hold, an emergency meeting of the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee

and Sewer Commission was held Wednesday, March 31, at 12:07 p.m. via Microsoft Teams. Over 50 people attended the remote meeting.

USDA Director Jennifer Lerch sent an email to all parties involved in the \$1.8 million contract settlement between the town of Hardwick and Eagle Hill School. The USDA required the contract with Eagle Hill School be settled before they could release funds to start the almost \$30 million project that includes work in Gilbertville, Wheelwright and the Hardwick Common. According to the email that Lerch sent, the status of the project is now on hold as an agreement was not reached with Eagle Hill School.

Board of Selectmen Chair Kenan Young read from the email, in which Lerch gave an overview of the project and the USDA's requirement that the contract with Eagle Hill School be bought out by the town, and the school restored to full payment status for sewer use. Lerch said a response from Eagle Hill School's Board of Trustees to the town's request for a contract settlement was required. Instead, Lerch said in her email, she received a response from Eagle Hill School Headmaster, Dr. PJ McDonald. According to Lerch's email, “EHS has not accepted the intended

See SEWER PROJECT, page 8

## Petersham broadband project complete



Turley Publications Courtesy Photo

Broadband crews prepare for the final fiber road crossing of Petersham's now completed Broadband project



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# News of the Towns



## Round Town

Ellenor Downer  
413-967-3505

## Food pantry to hold distribution April 15

Barre Food Pantry's evening distribution will occur Thursday, April 15 from 5:30-7 p.m. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church. They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or way back of their vehicle by volunteers.

### Girl Scouts outdoor skills

Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts invites girls and their guardian to an Intro to Outdoor Skills event for girls currently in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten, who are not yet Girl Scout members. It will be held Saturday, April 17 from 3-4 p.m. at the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St. Girls will earn their first Girl Scout patch while learning basic campfire building techniques, first aid and jackknife safety. Sign up is at <http://bit.ly/GSoutdoor>.

Space is limited. All COVID safety precautions will be followed. This is an outdoor event, dress accordingly. RSVP and register at: <http://bit.ly/GSoutdoor>. For more information, people may contact GSCWM recruitment manager Tammy Gilpatrick at [tgillpatrick@gscwm.org](mailto:tgillpatrick@gscwm.org) or 508-749-3639.

### Post 2 hall rentals now available

Effective immediately and in accordance with Governor Baker's directives, American Legion Barre Post 2, 450 South Barre Road, will be available for rentals. People should call 978-355-2730.

## 'Kindergarten readiness kits' offered

BARRE – MOC will offer "Kindergarten Readiness Kits" to CFCE families, who have children entering kindergarten in the fall 2021.

The kits are funded by the Mass. Department of Early Education and Care and offer a variety of tools needed to help teach counting, addition and subtraction, word building, handwriting, beginning reading and much more. The kits are available to families from the towns of Barre, Hardwick, Oakham, New Braintree, Hubbardston, Gardner, Templeton, Fitchburg, Ashburnham and Westminster.

Families may register at [www.mocinc.org/kindergartenkit](http://www.mocinc.org/kindergartenkit). After registration, a CFCE coordinator will reach out to coordinate pick-up and confirm the date for the virtual parent workshop, which accompanies the kits. Workshops are being offered May 19 at 6 p.m. and June 9 at 6 p.m. For more information, parents or guardians may contact [mmacawen@mocinc.org](mailto:mmacawen@mocinc.org), [kcleclair@mocinc.org](mailto:kcleclair@mocinc.org), [cdavis@mocinc.org](mailto:cdavis@mocinc.org) or [clapinskas@mocinc.org](mailto:clapinskas@mocinc.org).

*Places to go...  
Things to do...*



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## Stetson students busy with gardening



Turley Publications Courtesy Photo

Stetson school health/PE educator Thanh received a grant to purchase a tower for hydroponic gardening. The plants have been growing inside and will be moved outside soon. Also on campus is an old hoop house, which maintenance is fixing up and will cover with plastic so students can use it again. Not seen in the photo is the school garden, which is being weeded and getting ready for the seedlings and plants.

## Food pantry to hold distribution April 15

BARRE – The Barre Food Pantry's will hold an evening distribution Thursday, April 15 from 5:30-7 p.m.

As they have since last spring's distributions, in order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients, April 15 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway

of the Barre Congregational Church.

They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers.

Based on the success of distributions over the past year, the food pantry volunteers believe this "drive-through" style is the safest possible way to get food to clients and to help keep every-

one well.

Volunteers should not arrive on April 15 without first contacting either Dave Petrovick at 978-355-4519 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463.

Because conditions have been changing rapidly, people should continue to check for updates on the Barre Food Pantry website at <http://www.barrefoodbank.org/index.htm> the Barre Food Pantry Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Barre-Food-Pantry-100156068300314/>.

## Tri-Parish Community Church news

NEW BRAINTREE – The Tri-Parish Community Church bid farewell to the guest pastor, Rev. Kathleen Fitzgibbons at the April 11 service in the New Braintree Congregational Church. Rev. Fitzgibbons has been assisting the Tri-Parish in obtaining a permanent, part-time minister and now returns to her church

in Maine for the summer. She will be greatly missed as her genuine Christian manner of preaching has inspired both young and older to return to church.

There are two more services at the New Braintree Congregational Church: April 18 to be led by Jennifer Pollard and April 25 with

Deacon Marguerite Crevier. On May 2, Tri-Parish services will begin at the Stone Church in Gilbertville. All services start at 10 a.m. with masks and social distancing.

For further information or questions, people may leave a message at 508-867-3306 and someone will get back to them.

*Have Something to Share?*  
Send your stories and photos to  
[edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com)

## Hubbardston

Ellenor Downer  
[edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com)



## Hikes planned at Fieldstone farm

Hubbardston Open Space Committee and East Quabbin Land Trust invite individuals and families for a community hike at Fieldstone Farm on Lombard Road. The one-mile walk begins at 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 24. Rain date is Sunday, April 25. People will have another opportunity to enjoy this trail on Saturday, May 22 at 1 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday, May 23. Fieldstone Farm is near the Audubon Society in Princeton. Eventually the hope is to connect with the Mid State Trail and Mt. Wachusett.

### Nomination papers

Nomination papers are available now through Tuesday, April 20 for the Annual Town Election to be held June 8. Nomination papers may be picked up at the Town Clerk's office by appointment. People may call 978-928-1400, extension 202 or email [telcerk@hubbardstonma.us](mailto:telcerk@hubbardstonma.us) to schedule an appointment.

A minimum of 20 signatures of registered voters in Hubbardston are required. Papers must be returned by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 4. The following offices will be on the ballot: selectboard (2 positions), board of assessors, planning board (2 positions), board of health (2 positions), Quabbin Regional School District Committee (2 positions), finance committee, cemetery commission, trustees of public library (2 positions), housing authority (4 positions) and park commissioner. All terms are for three-years except the planning board and two of the four positions on the housing authority, which are five-year and a 4-year.

### Town wide cleanup

On Saturday, April 17, citizens of Hubbardston will work together to make their town a better place during the third annual Keep Hubbardston Beautiful Town wide Cleanup. Volunteers from the KHB Committee will be at the Curtis Recreation Field from 8 a.m. to noon to welcome people who've picked up trash and direct them toward the big red dumpster, generously provided by Pleasant View Waste Disposal. People who participate in the Town wide Cleanup will each receive a gift of a fresh sapling in honor of Earth Day, courtesy of R.S. Clapham Tree Service.

### Girl Scout bottle drive

The Girl Scouts will be at the Curtis Recreation Field on Saturday, April 17 to collect donations of returnable bottles and cans. This fundraiser helps support troop activities.

### Senior center

The Hubbardston Senior Center drive through food and eggs will still be in place on Thursday mornings. Masks will be in place properly and distancing will be followed.

## Congregational church to hold drive-thru chicken barbecue

BARRE – The Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St., will hold a drive thru chicken barbecue Saturday, May 1. Pick up time is 5-5:30 p.m. Cost is adults \$12 and children under 12, \$5. For reservations, people may call Lisa Holloway at 978-355-0140.

The Supper Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank every one, who has supported its drive thru dinners. The committee hopes to continue this until it is safe for all of people to be together again inside.



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# News of the Towns

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

*Note: Many meetings are closed to the public or will be held remotely.*

### BARRE

Barre Housing Authority – April 15 and May 6 at 3 p.m.  
Barre Finance Committee – April 15 at 6:30 p.m.  
Sewer Commission – April 15 at 7 p.m.  
Board of Assessors – April 20 at 6 p.m.  
Board of Selectmen – April 20 at 6:30 p.m.  
Planning Board – April 20 at 7 p.m.  
Cemetery Commission – April 22 at 11 a.m.  
Conservation Committee – April 27 at 7 p.m.  
Historical Commission – May 3 at 7 p.m.  
Felton Field Commission – May 4 at 6:30 p.m.  
Council on Aging – May 5 at 1 p.m.  
QRSD Special Ed Subcommittee – May 7 at 9 a.m.

### HARDWICK

Gilbertville Water District – April 20 at 5:30 p.m.  
Finance Committee – April 26 at 5:30 p.m.  
Board of Selectmen – April 26 at 6:30 p.m.  
Conservation Commission – April 28 at 6:30 p.m.  
Recycling Commission – May 4 at 6:30 p.m.  
Board of Health – May 6 at 6:30 p.m.  
Paige Library Trustees – May 6 at 7 p.m.  
Gilbertville-Wheelwright Sewer Commissioners – May 10 at 6 p.m.  
Council on Aging – May 13 at 9:30 a.m.  
Gilbertville Public Library – May 14 at 4 p.m.

### HUBBARDSTON

Planning Board – April 15 and May 6 at 6:30 p.m.  
Select Board – April 26, May 10 and May 24 at 6:30 p.m.  
Open Space Committee – April 27 and May 25 at 7 p.m.  
Historical Commission – May 1 at 10 a.m.  
Conservation Commission – May 4 at 7 p.m.  
Planning Board May 6 at 6:30 p.m.

### PETERSHAM

Board of Health – April 15 and May 6 at 7 p.m.  
Planning Board – April 22 at 7 p.m. Nichewaug Inn and Academy Committee 2020 – April 26 at 6:30 p.m.  
Open Space and Recreation Committee – May 4 at 6:30 p.m.  
Conservation Commission – May 4 at 7:30 p.m.  
Cemetery Commission – May 13 at 7 p.m.

### RUTLAND

Finance Committee – April 15 at 6 p.m.  
Earthworks Board – April 15 at 6:30 p.m.  
Conservation Commission – April 17 at 10 a.m.  
Planning Board Public Hearing – April 27 at 6:55 p.m.  
Planning Board Public Hearing – April 27 at 7:20 p.m.

## Barre Dining Center

BARRE — Elder Services of Worcester Area Nutrition Program welcomes guests to dine at the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road. The following meals will be served for the week of April 19.

Meal sites are closed and there are only Meals on Wheels deliveries.

Volunteers are needed at the Barre dining site. Volunteers are needed for Meals on Wheels (mileage reimbursement) and in the kitchen. People should contact 978-355-5027.

MON. – Patriots Day No meal served  
TUES. – Teriyaki beef, steamed rice, California blend vegetables, pineapple, fortune cookie, whole wheat bread

WED. – Chicken Milano, wild rice, spinach, mixed fruit, pumpernickel bread

THURS. – Salisbury steak with gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, carrots, vanilla mousse, sandwich roll

FRI. – Potato crunch fish, potatoes au gratin, mixed vegetables, fresh fruit, tarter sauce, marble rye bread

\*Diabetic friendly dessert

\*\*Higher sodium entree

Meal includes milk and margarine. Menus are subject to change. All meals are served at about 11:45 a.m. each weekday. Reservations should be made the day before by calling 978-355-5027 before 10:30 a.m. The donation of \$2.50 per meal helps keep the program running.

## Can you identify these men?



Turley Publications Submitted Photo

**Chéri Smith submitted this photo of a group of Barre men, who used to work for Massachusetts Electric circa 1960s/1970s. She asked readers if they can identify any of the men in the photo. The man second from the left is her grandfather, Bill Smith. People may email edowner@turley.com if they can identify any of the men and I will forward the information to Chéri Smith.**

## Bigelow library to host presentations

The Bigelow Free Public Library will host a zoom presentation on Wednesday, April 21 at 6:30 p.m. entitled “Armchair Travels with Steve Farrar- Exploring the Rocky Mountain National Parks.”

This is part four of “arm-chair traveling via Zoom” program with travel expert Steve Farrar. In this presentation participants will be exploring the national parks systems collectively known as “The Rocky Mountain Parks,” which includes the Glacier, Yellowstone, Grand Tetons, Black Canyon, Rocky Mountain, Great Sand Dunes, Carlsbad Caverns, Guadalupe Mountain and White Sands, national parks. People may

register at <http://bigelowlibrary.org/calendar/to> receive the Zoom meeting invitation.

Wednesday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m. the library will host “Achieving Financial Independence Through Simple Living” with author Elizabeth Willard Thames (a.k.a. Mrs. Frugalwoods).

Elizabeth Willard Thames, better known as Mrs. Frugalwoods, is the creator of the award-winning personal finance blog, Frugalwoods.com and author of the book, Meet The Frugalwoods: Achieving Financial Independence Through Simple Living. In 2016, at age 32, she reached financial independence and left a

successful career in Boston to create a more meaningful, purpose-driven life on a 66-acre homestead in the woods of Vermont with her husband and their two young daughters. Prior to following her calling as a writer and homesteader, she worked for ten years in the non-profit sector as a fundraiser and communications manager. Thames received a BA from the University of Kansas and an MA from American University. You can follow her on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook.

People may register at <http://bigelowlibrary.org/calendar/to> receive the Zoom meeting invitation.

## Postponements and cancellations due to the coronavirus pandemic

The Three County Fair, Northampton, closed its office for the winter season and instituted staff cuts and furloughs to help the 202-year-old organization survive the extended shutdown of the fairgrounds due to the COVID-19 health crisis. The cuts will affect each staff member, and includes a fourteen percent salary reduction for senior management and staggered furloughs for all employees. Furloughs could be extended if the fairgrounds are unable to host postponed 2020 events in the spring, which include over a dozen different horse shows from April through October, plus a variety of con-

certs and festivals. The Three County Fair entered 2020 on solid ground after completing 2019 as its most successful year since horse racing ended at the fairgrounds in 2005, thanks to a widely attended Labor Day weekend fair, and another full slate of horse shows and festivals. But with reoccurring operational expenses and more than one million dollars in lost 2020 event revenue, the fair will run out of reserves sooner rather than later. The fair received a Small Business Administration Paycheck Protection Loan in mid-May, which has since been exhausted and forgiven by its lend-

er and the SBA. For more information, people may visit [www.3countyfair.com](http://www.3countyfair.com).

With the current and near future Covid 19 parameters from the CDC, the Home Builder & Remodelers Association of Western Massachusetts, along with the Eastern States Exposition, has postponed the March Home Show 2021: the “Original” Western Mass Home and Garden Show to Aug. 20 – 22, 2021. The new date will allow for the utmost personal safety for guest & vendors, allow full building occupancy, and reflect the true show attendance numbers of their past shows

## Oakham

Ellenor Downer  
edowner@turley.com



## Library offers new online calendar

The Fobes Memorial Library announces the new online calendar is up on its new website and ready to be used. Programs include touch-a-truck, fairy houses and Dino habitats, story times, DIY beeswax wraps, meet the candidates night and more. Registration will be required for all programs and can be done through the new online calendar. Registration for most programs opens two weeks in advance.

Masks will be required for all program attendees ages 2 plus. All programs will be held outdoors and will be weather dependent. Special events will have scheduled rain dates, but many regular programs will not. Due to continued library closures and limited program offerings in surrounding towns, Oakham residents will have priority registration for the first 48 hours after program registration opens. Out of town patrons are welcome to register at any time, but their registrations will not be approved unless there is still space after the 48 hour period has passed. If registration is full then they will be added to the wait list. The majority of the programs are funded by the Friends of the Fobes Memorial Library, Inc., a group that runs on donations and revenue from fundraisers.

### Kids' Art Gallery seeks new artists

The kids' art gallery at the Fobes Memorial Library, 4 Maple St., is looking for a new artist. Children and teens of all ages are encouraged to submit six pieces of art for the mini kids' art gallery. Artwork should fit an 8.5" x 11" frame and be oriented vertically.

### StoryWalk

StoryWalk begins in front of the library next to the hydrangea tree and continues down towards the library's patio. The StoryWalk continues counterclockwise around Wright Field and ends back up next to the library. Children may stop in at the library afterwards for a themed take home activity kit.

Upcoming StoryWalks are “Little Bot and Sparrow” by Jake Parker now through April 20 with a craft kit – cardboard robots and “Touch the Brightest Star” by Christie Matheson April 21 through May 4 with a craft kit – paper bag stars.

### Town election information

Christine Mardirosian, town clerk, announces the last day to register to vote in the town election set for Monday, May 17 is Tuesday, April 27. The following positions will be on the ballot: three-year term for selectman, town clerk, assessor, board of health, library trustee, cemetery commission, school committee and tree warden; two-year term for assessor and cemetery commission; one-year term constable and five-year term planning board.

### Church news

The Oakham Congregational Church will hold in person Sunday worship at 10 a.m. Social distancing will be followed and masks must be worn. Sunday School meets downstairs in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

## Barre Family Pharmacy

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Opinion

Editorial

Earth Day celebrates 51 years

This year Earth Day celebrates its 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary. Earth Day was the idea of Gaylord Nelson, a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, after witnessing the ravages of the 1969 massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. Inspired by the student anti-war movement, he decided to tap their level of commitment into an emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution. He hoped that it would place environmental protection on the national political agenda. Senator Nelson announced the idea for a “national teach-in on the environment” to the national media. It became a bipartisan event with Pete McCloskey, a conservation-minded Republican Congressman, serving as his co-chair. Along with a national coordinator, they planned events throughout the United States. An event that began nationally soon became a global event. In the United States, the environment became a key issue and led to the formation of the United States Environmental Protection Act (EPA) and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts. In 1995 Nelson received the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his role as Earth Day founder.

Earth Day is celebrated Thursday, April 22 and is a time to to reflect on how Earth Day came into being and to make decisions in one’s personnel life to help sustain the planet for generations to come.

When spring weather finally arrives, people will head out to their yards to do some spring cleaning. Now that the snowbanks melted, winter’s trash dots roadsides.

On Saturday, April 17, Hubbardston residents will work together to make their town a better place during the third annual Keep Hubbardston Beautiful Town Wide Cleanup. Volunteers from the Keep Hubbardston Beautiful Committee will be at the Curtis Recreation Field from 8 a.m. to noon to welcome people who’ve picked up trash and direct them toward the big red dumpster, generously provided by Pleasant View Waste Disposal. People, who participate in the Town Wide Cleanup, will each receive a gift of a fresh sapling in honor of Earth Day, courtesy of R.S. Clapham Tree Service. The Girl Scouts will also be at the Curtis Recreation Field on Saturday, April 17 to collect donations of returnable bottles and cans.

In the Three Rivers section of Palmer volunteers are needed for the 2021 Earth Day river clean-up on Saturday, April 17 from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Volunteers should meet at Laviolette Field. The event is sponsored by the Palmer Conservation Commission, the Chicopee 4 Rivers Watershed Council, Country Bank and American Rivers®. To volunteer or for more information, people may contact: Sarah Fortune, Palmer Conservation assistant at 413-626-7084 or sfortune@townofpalmer.com.

Earth Day 2021 is a time to continue this long standing endeavor to make this planet a clean place for generations to come..

Guest column

Adventures of Gertrude the Cat

By Ruth Robinson

Dear Folks,

Every day should start out like this morning with Missy humming and dancing around the kitchen. She is telling me all about her weekend with her great-great-granddaughter and her two step daughters, whom she hasn’t seen in six months. A great family gathering I guess.

In the mean time, I just slept over the weekend with no special things to get into, which was really too bad with Missy not here to scold me.

However, this week will be different if I have my way. The waste baskets are full as she didn’t go to the dump on Saturday and the newspapers are also piled up. Hooray, I wonder what else is available for my mischief this week.

There is something different in the computer room. I wonder if I can get into the new box? Oh boy, there is a lot of stuff in this box. I wonder what Missy is planning to do with all those things. There sees to be something like a rake, like a spade or shovel and some packages with pretty colors on them. I wonder what is inside of them? Maybe I better not fool with those for fear of trouble from Missy.

There is also a jar with some kind of liquid in it. I’ll just mess with the tools in the box for a while. Perhaps then Missy won’t be too upset when she sees what I have just done because I have scattered those packages everywhere and fortunately none of them opened up. Good batting practice for me, ha ha. I still wonder just what is in those packages. It was probably wise not to find out.

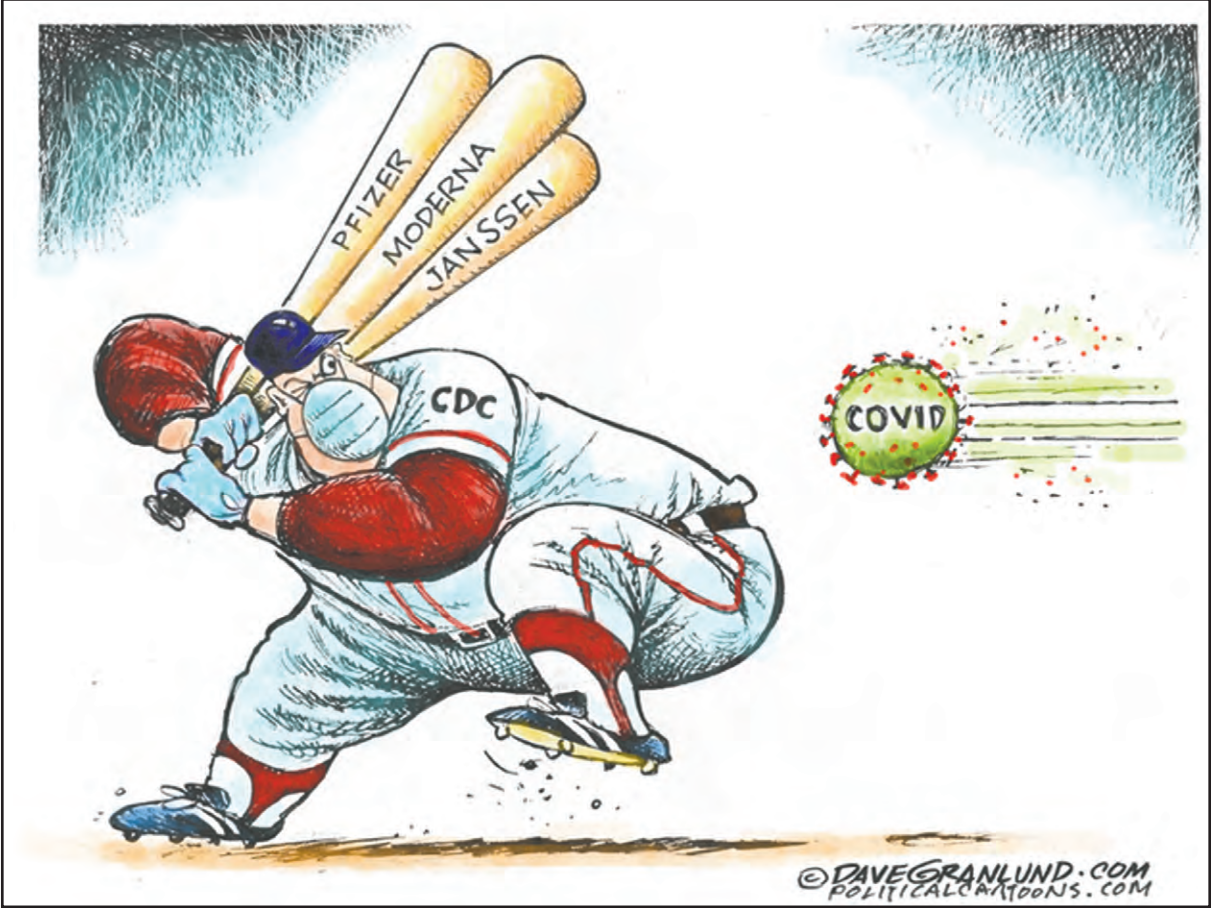
Stay well folks. I think spring is coming. The weatherman says 60 degrees this week.

Love,  
Gertrude



Corrections policy

The Barre Gazette will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2. To request a orrection, send information to Editor Ellenor Downer at barrenews@turley.com or call 978-355-4000. Corrections may also be requested in writing at Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.



In Past Pages

5 years (April 21, 2016)

The town of Barre seeks interested persons to serve on a committee to assist in the search for a police chief. Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest, which should include any experience or related skills that may apply to: Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, 40 West St., Suite 697, Barre, MA 01005 no later than noon on Thursday, April 28.

The Quabbin girls’ tennis team kicked off their season with a win, beating Leominster 4-1. Landy Panthers Nicole Paterson, Delaney Gilis and Abby Hurd all won their single matches, while Quabbin’s Savannah Hippert and Mira Lockwood were successful in doubles. The squad travels to Marlborough this afternoon and hosts their first home match Friday against North Middlesex at Felton Field in Barre.

Earth Day is a time when we celebrate the beautiful planet we live on. On a gorgeous Sunday in April Hubbardston Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts collected trash at the Comet Pond boat ramp in Hubbardston. Every year, Hubbardston Cub Scouts Pack 12 conducts this community service project to clean up a part of their town. Sadly, there is always a lot of trash for the Scouts to collect, but they perform this duty enthusiastically.

10 years ago (April 21, 2011)

The first order of business at the April 19 Barre selectmen’s meeting was the reorganization of the board. Selectman Richard Jankauskas nominated selectman Kathryn Inman as the new chairman. “I respectfully decline,” Inman said. “I’m not finished teaching yet and I am not retiring within the next year. I just feel that for the service of the town, I decline.” Inman then made the motion that current chairman Lief Ericson remain chairman. Jankauskas was nominated as clerk and Inman accepted vice chairman. “I just want to state for the record that when we did this last year, it was stated that in a person’s last term, it was customary for them to serve the last as chairman,” Jankauskas said.

The Petersham Lions Club will sponsor a pancake breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Saturday, April 23 at the Petersham Unitarian Church, located on the town common. Breakfast will be served from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. and the Easter Bunny will arrive at 9 a.m. Parents are invited to bring their cameras to take pictures of their children with the Easter Bunny.

LOOK BACK

Barre Gazette 150 Anniversary Party - 1984



The Barre Gazette newspaper celebrated its 150th anniversary May 20, 1984. From left, Mary Kelley staff writer and Dorothy Banks, editor.

Ball roll tickets are available for purchase at \$5 a piece at the Fobes Memorial Library or from area businesses. All proceeds do directly to the Friends of the Library and Oakham Parks and Recreation. The ball roll will be held on Saturday, April 30 from 2-5 p.m.

25 years ago (April 18, 1996)

Jack Kittredge of Barre recently joined a group of farmers from across the country on a trip to view recent developments in organic agriculture in Cuba. His Manu Hands Farm on Sheldon Road is a successful model to man, who believe in living gently on the land. Jack and his wife, Julie Rawson, along with their four children, farm organically, using no pesticides or commercial fertilizers, growing healthy vegetables and livestock that they offer for sale to the public. “Because of the cutoff of petroleum supplies and petroleum based fertilizers caused by the breakup of the Soviet Union, Cuba’s farmers are being forced to return to organic methods,” Kittredge said.

Skateboarders in Barre may soon have a place to practice their sport. Felton Field Commissioners have authorized the use of some land behind the tennis courts to be used as a skateboard park. Virginia Rich of the Recreation Commission met with selectmen to request an article on the annual

town meeting warrant to pay for construction cost to build the park. She said it likely the article will be tabled as some construction work will be donated and the skateboarders will raise funds or work on the project themselves so that taxpayers’ money may not be needed.

The Barre Business Association is planning a business exposition the second weekend in August. At the March meeting members decided the theme would be “Roaring Twenties.” Genevieve Fraser and Wendy Miller of the Barre Players Club were present to ask members to participate in the parade and other events being held the first weekend in August to celebrate the BPC’s 75 anniversary. A parade is planned with floats and booths will be set up on the common.

38 years (April 21, 1983) Michael Petrone and Steven Holmes, both of Ravine Road in New Braintree, discovered part of a balloon with a message attached while playing in the back yard of the Petrone home. Michael and Steven sent a not back to the balloon’s send, Kelly Baker of Sharon Springs, New York, letting her know where and by whom the balloon was found. Strangely enough New Braintree school children released balloons last Wednesday and both boys thought it was one of those they had discovered. Some of the New Braintree balloons have been found in Connecticut, but Steven’s and Michael’s have yet to be returned.

Two Quabbin Regional High School students were chosen by the Barre Lions Club to participate in the 1983 Massachusetts Lions Club All State Band. On Wednesday, April 13 Kathleen A. Sirous, a senior and Allen Sawyer,

Guest Column

FIELD NOTES

Firearms aafety

By Mohawk Johnny

Some seasoned sportsmen and women may regard this as a tired and redundant topic—they read it over and over and over again in sporting magazines, hear it being drilled into their children at hunters’ safety courses, and maybe they’ve had or know someone who’s had a close call with an accidental discharge of a firearm or worse. They should know as well as anyone that it bears repeating, over and over and over.

I must now own up to the fact that I have been responsible for not one, but two accidental discharges in my lifetime. No, let’s call them what they really are, negligent discharges. The first of these incidents happened when I was very new to firearms and could easily have injured or killed someone else; the other put a bullet through the ceiling and roof of my porch and could have easily killed me.

In my feeble defense, I didn’t grow up in a hunting household and had no mentor to slap the back of my head whenever I did something stupid as I learned how to handle firearms. Taking a hunter safety course wasn’t required in Massachusetts when I started hunting, so my only frame of reference came in the form of safety articles in my NRA-affiliated magazines and the little flyers that come with new firearms, listing the “Ten Commandments of Gun Safety.”

I was, however, a full-grown adult, and I count myself a relatively intelligent fellow. Pro tip: Never confuse intelligence with wisdom. Nope, there is no defense, only the shame of doing something stupid and gratitude that no one was hurt or killed.

The last one, which happened decades ago, cemented in my mind the fact that once a trigger is pulled, that bullet is going where the muzzle is pointed—it can’t be called back, and if someone else is injured or has their life cut short due to my negligence, I’ll have to live with that for the rest of my life. Each of those incidents, in retrospect, have affected a hyper-vigilant awareness whenever I handle firearms. I’m wiser now but not perfect, so I refresh my memory from time to time by rereading those commandments and mentally rehashing my own mistakes. Another pro tip: Don’t be afraid to let humility overshadow your ego; it could save someone’s life, maybe your own.

The Ten Commandments of Firearms Safety:

- Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
- Firearms should be unloaded when not actually in use.
- Don’t rely on your gun’s safety.
- Be sure of your target and what’s beyond it.
- Use proper ammunition.
- If your gun fails to fire when the trigger is pulled, handle with care.
- Always wear eye and ear protection when shooting.
- Be sure the barrel is clear of obstructions before shooting.
- Don’t alter or modify your gun and have it serviced regularly.
- Learn the mechanical and handling characteristics of the firearm you are using.

Send your stories and photos to edowner@turley.com

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BARRE GAZETTE

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# Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

The weather was beautiful last week. I tried to work outside every day until my body said go rest. Most of the raking has been done and the gardens are cleared out. I limed the lawn and gardens and put mulch around the shrubs. I will mulch the hostas when they come up. I counted the daffodils in the back garden and there were 42 blooms. This is the exciting time to tour the garden to see what is new. I also put my wire cages around my peony bushes so they will be there when the plants come up.

Sunday I went to Rietta Ranch flea market for the first time in over a year. Everyone wore masks and social distanced. I got a couple of coleus plants and a very nice picture frame for my watercolors.

Here is a recipe for Pastedi.

### PASTEDI

1/2 lb. macaroni, cooked  
8 oz. ricotta cheese  
4 eggs  
1 tsp. sweet basil  
salt and pepper to taste  
garlic powder  
Romano cheese by the handful

Grease an 8 by 8 inch pan. Mix all ingredients; add to cooked macaroni. Pour into greased pan. Pour a small amount of olive oil on top to help with browning. Bake at 400 degrees for 3/4 an hour or 1 hour. Cut in slices or squares. Serve cold.

### This and That

This week I had to take a day off from gardening so I decided to go through my filing folders and see if I could throw away anything. I was able to fill a waste paper bas-

ket with papers I did not need. One of the folders contained articles I had cut out from antique magazines of ideas for decorating. It was fun to see what interested me.

I am one that likes to change things around all the time. In fact, I changed the living room mantel. I put a Japanese figurine with a vase that had Japanese figures on it with some sprays of artificial apple blossoms in the vase. The background is a large black tole tray.

I noticed that the forsythia is out but it does not look as full of blossoms as usual. Do the birds eat the buds?

Have a good week and try to get a walk in. Some people are planting their early crops in the gardens.

# A Sunday sojourn, garden style

I enjoyed getting out into the garden last weekend, making my way around various parts of the yard that required attention. First stop, the perennial borders. As much as I love raking leaves, I raked the same gardens last month. It is always discouraging when you have to repeat something that you already did. Blame it on the massive oak tree in front of my house that just recently shed its leaves!

Why does it hold on to some of its leaves throughout the winter, anyway? I read some interesting hypotheses recently, explaining that the oak and its cousin the beech, are either evolutionarily delayed, or quite ahead of their time, depending on how you look at it. You see, we have the evergreens and we have deciduous trees. Then we have these trees in the middle. But what benefit could marcescence (holding on to dead leaves) be to the tree? One theory suggests that dead leaves covering the lower part of the tree protect vulnerable buds from deer browsing. Another says that the old leaves offer the buds measurable cold protection. I found yet two more explanations targeting moisture conservation, implying that the leaves funnel snow (i.e. water) to the base of the tree and that when the dead leaves fall they are the start of a moisture retentive mulch positioned exactly where the tree needs it the most, around the drip line. Very cool, indeed. Yet another thing to awe about creation, as if there weren't enough already!

While I was outside I took advantage of impending rain, and

decided that there was no time like the present to lime and top dress my garlic with compost. This meant visiting the compost pile, and you guessed it, raking off a layer of oak leaves before giving it a few good turns, revealing the "black gold" beneath, teaming with worms. It's really neat to think that all those banana peels, egg shells, orange rinds and the like mixed with said leaves and grass clipping made this food for my garden. I filled a couple of buckets worth and headed over to the row of garlic. I was actually shocked to see that it had sprouted a good five inches in the 10 days or so I had been out of the garden. Better to get this task accomplished almost late than never, I guess. I pulled back the much, laid a layer of compost, then reset the mulch and sprinkled the whole bed with a bit of lime. I really should get my soil tested, but I remember reading something years ago that always said never to think about growing alliums in anything but sweet soil, so there you go. This is the second year that I planted my garlic, laid a layer of cardboard on top and then mulched the whole shebang. It is off to another great start, so it seems. The cardboard helps prevent weeds and conserve moisture.

I also gave some lime to my lupines. It's what I was taught to do a million years ago and

still do it, even though some sources say it is not needed. There is one bed, closer to my house that has been growing lupines far longer than the 10 years we've been here. In year two they flower, drop their seed and new plants germinate, sometimes with very little fan fare and usually in a spot where you least expect it or would desire it for perfect placement. Whether it is too close to another plant, too close to the front of the border or somewhere else not part of the plan, no worries. The volunteer always gets to stay because if you move it, chances are you will sever the tap root and lose the plant. And a June without lupines is too sad to risk it. The only time I have ever attempted moving a lupine seedling is when it has only its first or second true leaf, and then very, very carefully.

Have fun with wherever you are led on your next afternoon in the garden!

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*



Roberta McQuaid  
Columnist

# In My Backyard by Ellenor Downer

The male brown headed cowbird is a stocky blackbird and as its name implies has a brown head. They are smaller than the red-winged blackbird. The female is brown, lighter brown on the head and underparts with streaking on the belly. She also has a dark eye, short tail and conical beak.

Cowbirds are infamous for laying their eggs in other birds' nests. The female cowbird notes when a potential host bird lays its eggs and when the nest is left momentarily unattended, the cowbird lays its own egg in it. The female cowbird may continue to observe this nest after laying eggs. Some bird species have evolved the ability to detect such parasitic eggs and may reject them by pushing them out of their nests, but the female cowbird has been observed to attack and destroy the remaining eggs of such birds as a consequence, dissuading further removals. Cowbirds lay eggs in over 100 species of birds.

This week I watched a male cowbird on the ground under my feeder strut and display for a female feeding on the ground. I first saw the pair March 31. The male arrived first and then the female. It was also the case with the red-winged blackbirds with the males appearing earlier than the females.

### Courting behavior

On April 10 I looked out at the feeder. The male cardinal was in the tray feeder and the female was in a nearby branch. He flew over to female and passed her a sunflower seed. It won't be long before they raise a brood and I will see the parents feeding their young seeds by my feeder.

With the black bears out and about, I only put a small amount of seed in the tray every morning. I was taking in my suet feeder for the night, but I ran out of suet cakes.

### Great blue herons

On April 3, I watched two great

blue herons land in the back part of the beaver pond, which abuts my hayfield. A few days later one flew over my house when I was taking care of my chickens.

### Juncos

I still see a few juncos in my yard, but there are not as many as during the winter. Soon, they will be heading north to Canada for the breeding season.

### Canada geese

I saw two Canada geese in my hayfield next to the beaver pond. Every year, a pair or two of geese raise a family there. Geese also raise families in the beaver pond on the other side of the road.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing [mybackyard88@aol.com](mailto:mybackyard88@aol.com) or [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com) or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

# Old Sturbridge Village appoints new director of collections and research

STURBRIDGE – Old Sturbridge Village announced a new director of collections and research, Derek Heidemann, to oversee their Collections and Research Division.

Old Sturbridge Village has over 40,000 pieces in their collection and a large research library on site. Derek Heidemann first started at Old Sturbridge Village as a volunteer in the junior intern program in the year 2000. Heidemann went on to join the village's interpretation part-time team working in the blacksmith shop and other trade shops. After receiving a Bachelors of Arts degree in history in 2009 and Masters of Arts in history with a focus in public history in 2010 from Clark University, Heidemann joined the village's full-time interpretation team.

In 2014 he was made the coo-

dinator of historic trades and then interim assistant director of interpretation in 2020. In 2017, Heidemann curated a new firearms exhibit which is now known as the Armed and Equipped: Firearms and the Militia in New England 1790-1840.

"Derek Heidemann is the perfect choice to lead the Collections and Research division as we head into our 75th year," said Jim Donahue, President and CEO. "His commitment to research and development, love of the Village's collection and experience in interpretation positions him well to expand the use of the collection to engage and educate the public."

While a lot of organizations have been forced to downsize over the past year, Old Sturbridge Village has continued to grow and expand on their programs

and educational resources. This has given the village the opportunity to bring in new talent and promote already existing talent within the organization. The divisions of program and interpretation, museum education, collections and research have all added staff to support the mission of the village. With the growth of those divisions, the village is implementing new strategies for promoting their wide variety of offerings, both in-person and online. As a result, additional talent has also been brought in to support the marketing division and will continue to be transformed over the next year as the village revolutionizes their digital content. As Old Sturbridge Village begins its 75th anniversary year, they have much to look forward to and share with their visitors and neighboring communities.

# Polus Center receives \$75,000 grant

BOSTON – Senator Anne Gobi (D-Spencer) joined Representative Susannah Whipps (I-Athol) and the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development in announcing the Polus Center for Social and Economic Development has been awarded a grant through FY21 Employment Program for Young Adults with Disabilities in the amount of \$75,000. Located in Petersham, the Polus Center has more than 35 years of experience designing human service programs and promoting new opportunities

for persons with disabilities and victims of conflict in the United States and throughout the world. Today, their primary work in Massachusetts is to help people with disabilities gain the skills, credentials, career-support and work opportunities to help them find competitive employment.

The Employment Program for Young Adults with Disabilities prepares young adults with disabilities for employment by providing occupational skills, coaching and pre- and post- placement supports.

The Polus Center will train and place participants in retail and customer service jobs with program partners that include: Whole Foods Market, Price Chopper Market, MassHire North Central Workforce Board and Thryv Consulting. The short-term training offered by the center incorporates virtual skills training as well as on-the-job training to set up participants for success.

To learn more about the grant announcement, people may email [Anne.Gobi@MASenate.gov](mailto:Anne.Gobi@MASenate.gov).

## QRSD, continued from page 1

2023, She said the ESSER III grant amount was not known at the present, but should be about 1.6 to 2 million dollars. The deadline for spending the grant was June 30, 2024. The school nutrition director applied for grants to cover kitchen equipment, but the awarding was not yet announced.

### MCAS update

Superintendent Muir said it looked likely Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System testing will happen. She said pending the board of education decision, 11th graders won't have to take the performance test. School committee chair "Lee" Wolanin said if districts going to have to do MCAS testing, they

should be held harmless with no district accountability or student impact.

### Student advisory

Two fifth graders at Hubbardston Center School, Moira Powers and Kaylee, gave a report via Zoom to the school committee. They said they do not get recess and the year has been different.

Cleni Marenelli and Sunden Strazdas are members of the student counsel. They said they enjoy full in person learning. The student council has been checking on how students are doing.

### Budget subcommittee

Mark Wigler, budget subcommittee chair, said the house budget should be finalized in mid-April and he hoped to have an additional school committee meeting the end of April so the committee can

present assessments to the member towns. The school committee chair scheduled a school committee meeting for Tuesday, April 27 at 6 p.m.

### Other business

The school committee approved accepting school choice students in grades, which would not require additional teachers. About 12% of enrollment was school choice students.

Nekr Jenkins of QDrug said last year QDrug partnered with the school district to apply for a drug free community grant. It did not receive the grant, but Jenkins said she received feedback on how to file an application for this year by updating to public health terminology. The school committee approved a motion to apply for the five-year grant again this year.

Hyannis. The expense for these two outstanding students to attend this year's Lions Club All State Band are paid entirely by the Barre Lions Club.

John Allen of Barre received the Four Year Sports Participation Award for soccer and baseball at the recent Nichols College Spring

Honors Weekend activities in Dudley. Allen, a senior majoring in finance at Nichols, was tri-captain of the soccer team an a member of the baseball team, the Varsity Club and Radio Club. A graduate of Quabbin Regional High School, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Allen of Barre.

## PAST PAGES, continued from page 4

a sophomore, left for Hyannis where they took part in three days of intensive rehearsals. The activities culminated with a performance at the 1983 Multiple District 33 State Lions Convention, which was held in

## 2021 Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do

not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

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### CLUES ACROSS

- Pituitary hormone (abbr.)
- Ceramic jars
- Monetary units
- Alias
- "Superman" actor
- Britonic tribe
- Shorten
- LA Dodgers manager
- Hoarded
- Theatrically portray
- Noah's grandson
- Dependent
- Peyton's little brother
- Cools the house
- Principle part of
- Type of wrap
- Peels
- Commercial
- Make an attempt
- Arrange in steps
- U. Utah athlete
- Old English

### 43. Trade

- Nostrils
- Ticket seller \_\_Hub
- Of I
- Institute legal proceedings against
- Takes apart
- Doorway
- Long int'l river
- Trailblazing athlete
- Gibson
- Former CBS News host
- Sign language
- Badgerlike mammal
- Thin strips of wood
- Brooklyn hoopster
- Portents of good or evil
- Footwear
- When you think you'll arrive

### CLUES DOWN

- Batflower genus
- Predatory seabirds

### 3. Fish farm

- Arrangements
- Go in advance of others
- Bulgarian monetary unit
- "\_\_ Maria"
- W. African ethnoreligious group
- Wild Asian oxen genus
- Vinegary
- To this
- Explosive
- Female sibling
- Orlando museum (abbr.)
- Type of hoop
- About Holy Father
- Academic environment
- Extremely angry
- Surrenders
- Swiss mountain pass

### 32. Sharp mountain

- ridge
- Erases
- Spielberg's alien
- Absurd
- Dorm worker
- Used to make pesticides
- The sister of your father or mother
- A way to let know
- Can't produce much vegetation
- Small streams
- Folk singer DiFranco
- Weights
- Start over
- Black Sea resort city
- Wimbledon champ
- Corporate executive (abbr.)
- Unskilled actor who overacts
- Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- Of or relating to ears

ANSWERS ON PAGE 14



# Hardwick

## Board discusses EMS options

### Marijuana businesses talk agreements

By Paula Ouimette  
Staff Writer

HARDWICK – At their Monday meeting, the Hardwick Board of Selectmen discussed ambulance service options for the town, although no vote was taken.

Board member Julie Quink said that she and Town Administrator Theresa Cofske recently sat in a meeting with Ware Town Manager Stuart Beckley, Barre Town Administrator Jessica Sizer, Barre Fire Chief Robert Rogowski and West Brookfield Rescue Squad President Dan McCall.

Quink said Rogowski thinks it would be more appropriate for Barre to service the Wheelwright area and parts of Hardwick close to the town lines, rather than cover the whole town. Quink said Sizer thought Barre’s Board of Selectmen would defer to Rogowski for his recommendation.

Quink said Ware EMS had did not have a final number, but she had received an email Monday suggesting Ware was interested in covering part of Hardwick, with Barre covering the other. Quink said Ware’s assessment for partial coverage of Hardwick would stay at \$77,000, the current rate for the whole town. Quink said Barre’s proposed assessment for partial coverage is \$22,500. Quink said she felt it is a “part or nothing” deal with Ware. The combined services from Barre and Ware would equal an annual assessment of \$99,500.

Quink said Hardwick’s other option was having Barre provide partial coverage as proposed, along with West Brookfield Rescue Squad. Quink said WBRS is hoping to be at medic level in the fall. WBRS proposed an assessment of \$18,400 for non-transport services, which are calls they respond to that do not require transport or transport was refused. Quink said they could still rely on Ware for mutual aid. She felt Barre would work well with both Ware and WBRS.

Selectmen Chairman Kenan Young said they should tie Barre into the plan either way. He said Wheelwright “is still a hike” for WBRS to respond. Quink shared a breakdown of calls received by dispatch from 2019, that showed over 90 of those 200-plus calls came from Wheelwright. The board will be contacting town counsel to verify they are within their 90-day notice period for their contract with Ware for EMS coverage.

Quink said she is meeting tomorrow with Sizer, Beckley, Rogowski, McCall, Ware Fire Chief Christopher Gagnon and Hardwick Fire Chief Raymond Walker. Both Young and board member Kelly Kemp thanked Quink for her efforts in addressing this issue.

#### Hardwick Mill Greenery

Young introduced Attorney Brian Palmucci, representing Hardwick Mill Greenery, located at 94 Main St., Gilbertville. Palmucci said they are in the design phase now with Dan LaFrance overseeing engineering.

Reggie Lang, the principal owner of the property, is a former restaurateur that has gotten into

the development of real estate. Palmucci said Lang was unable to sign into the meeting, but he was looking to have a retail store on site, 50 to 60,000 square feet of cultivation, and to house other businesses and services in the large mill building.

Palmucci said they want to “make it an economic engine for the town that it once was.” Palmucci has sent a Community Host Agreement to the town to review, and will be hosting a Community Outreach Meeting via Zoom on April 29, at 5:30 p.m. Meeting information and Zoom link are located on the meeting calendar at [www.townofhardwick.com](http://www.townofhardwick.com).

#### Budding Botanicals, LLC

Carolyn Blum, a representative from Budding Botanicals, LLC, to be located at 664 North Road, Hardwick, also experienced connection issues in joining the meeting. When she was able to sign in, Blum said they had just hosted their community outreach meeting with abutters and other residents prior to the selectmen’s meeting.

Blum said she spoke with Town Administrator Theresa Cofske and had sent over a Community Host Agreement for review. The board had not received the CHA from town counsel yet and Young said it usually takes town counsel a bit of time to review the document. Young told Blum to reach out to Cofske to ask if town counsel had finished their review.

#### STM/ATM date

The board approved the Special Town Meeting date as Saturday,

June 19, at 9 a.m., immediately followed by the Annual Town Meeting. The STM/ATM will be held in-person at the Hardwick Elementary School, outdoors if necessary, to meet COVID-19 guidelines. This date is pending approval by Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos.

#### Appointments /resignations

The board received the resignation of part-time MART driver, Douglas Robidoux. Sharon Hardaker, MART dispatcher, recommended the hiring of Robert Gamache to fill the vacant position and Stanley Johnson, as a backup driver. The pay rate would be \$14.05 an hour. The board approved Hardaker’s recommendation to hire both Gamache and Johnson.

The board also approved the request to appoint Emily Bancroft for a three-year term to the Historical Commission when her current term ends.

#### Ownership/management change

The board held a public hearing regarding an application they received to change ownership and manager on the Famer’s Series Pouring License for the Lost Towns Brewing Company. Young said the new manager will be Bruce McDowell, of Leominster, who is also a 33% owner of the business, along with James and Pamela Spurrell. McDowell said he was excited to start brewing beer and “looks forward to seeing everyone in town join them.” The board approved the change in ownership and management.

## Paige Memorial Library celebrates Earth Day



Turley Publications Courtesy Photo

These DIY Marigold Garden kits will be given out at the Paige Memorial Library Earth Day fun event.

HARDWICK – There will be Earth Day Fun at Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, on Thursday, April 22. Earth Day is April 22 and the theme is Restore Our Earth™.

For this celebration, there are DIY Marigold Garden kits complete with pot, soil, seeds, wooden labels and directions. Take them home and watch them grow. Just add water and your attention.

The library is also offering an outdoor storybook reading, which will take place at 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 22. Registration is important so that staff will know how many Marigold Gardens they need and how many chairs they need to carry outdoors.

People may register for the Marigold Garden kit and for the story time by calling 413-477-6704 or emailing [director.paigelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:director.paigelibrary@gmail.com). Masks must be worn and chairs will be six feet apart.

The library is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-7 p.m., Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

People may also visit <https://www.facebook.com/paigelibrary/> or <http://www.paigelibrary.com/>.

## Paige Memorial Library offers browsing appointments

HARDWICK – The Paige Memorial Library, 87 Petersham Road, is now open for browsing by appointment with restrictions due to Covid. People may visit the library website at <http://www.paigelibrary.com/> for details.

The appointment hours are Tuesday and Thursday 3-6 p.m., Wednesday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to noon.

Assistance with appointments and other questions is available during regular hours, Tuesday and Thursday 2-7 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m..

Patrons must be free from

symptoms of infection, wear a mask covering mouth and nose and practice social distancing.

Books are quarantined, touched surfaces are wiped down between appointments. Scanning, copying, printing are available with the assistance of staff. Curbside service will continue. Computers are not available at this time. The children’s area is closed, but parents may check out books, movies and materials. Restrooms are not available at this time.

People may call 413-477-6704 to make an appointment or place an order.

## Paige Memorial Library to hold book sale April 17

HARDWICK – The Friends of the Paige Memorial Library will hold a book sale at the Town House, 32 Common St., Saturday April 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, April 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

People will find fiction and non-fiction, topics like health, gardening, art, books for children,

audio books, many titles and many authors.

Masks must be worn and social distancing is required. Books will be quarantined before the sale.

People may call the Paige Memorial Library at 413-477-6704 or email [Director.paigelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:Director.paigelibrary@gmail.com) for more information.

### ELECTION continued from page 1

the most pressing issues facing the town.”

Hardwick saw a 27 percent voter turnout with 514 out of 1,902 registered voters casting ballots. Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos said poll workers saw a steady stream of voters throughout the day. Voters were able to socially distance by following a one-way flow pattern, and poll workers used ultraviolet wands to sanitize booths between uses.

The remaining positions on the ballot were uncontested and the results are as follows: Kathryn W. Hosley was re-elected to a three-year term on the Board of Assessors with 444 votes. Judith Berg Kohn was elected to the Board of Health for a three-year term with 401 votes. Stanley H. Remiszewski was also elect-

ed to the Board of Health for a two-year term with 423 votes. Erik L. Fleming was re-elected to the Planning Board for a three-year term with 384 votes, as was Eric Volheim with 409 votes. Edward Kelly received six votes for Quabbin Regional School Committee Member (three-year term) as a write-in candidate (pending acceptance of position). Kelly has been a member of the School Committee for over 30 years and did not seek re-election. Stanley White received 39 votes for Paige Agricultural Fund Trustee (five-year term) as a write-in candidate (pending acceptance of position).

Both Christopher M. Buelow and Jennifer E. Garvey were re-elected to three-year terms as Paige Memorial Library Trustees with 401 votes each. Stanley White received five votes for this position as a write-in candidate.

## Marijuana cultivation business proposed on North Road

By Paula Ouimette  
Staff Writer

HARDWICK – Residents were invited to attend a Community Outreach Meeting for the proposed marijuana establishment, Budding Botanicals, LLC, 664 North Road. Owners of the property, Carolyn Blum and Meira Blum shared their business plans with abutters and residents, who joined the Zoom meeting on Monday, April 12 at 5:30 p.m.

Carolyn Blum said that their proposed business would be cannabis cultivation for wholesale distribution. There would not be any direct sales from the property. Budding Botanicals, LLC would be seeking a Tier 2 license from the Cannabis Control Commission.

#### Security measures

Carolyn Blum said the proposed site’s security must meet the strict guidelines of the CCC. They will have a 6-foot chain fence covered with a privacy fabric. “You will not be seeing anything,” Blum said. The location of the greenhouses is set back from the road-way. There will be approximately 20 cameras with motions sensors, an alarm system, an on-site securi-

ty liaison, as required by the CCC. Blum said they will also have a gate to access the property and a code that only staff will have access to.

#### Preventing diversion to minors

Blum said, “We will be a wholesale cultivation establishment. We are not selling directly to anyone. We are growing the plants only, in the secure environment.” The cultivated product will be shipped to retailers directly. Abutter Stacey Hill asked if the plants would be cultivated indoors our outdoors. Blum said they will have two, 20 x 100-foot hoop house style greenhouses. Each greenhouse will have 10 mm plastic polycarbonate covering it and locked with a security code.

#### Odor concerns

Blum said each greenhouse will be equipped with large carbon filters, more than is required by the CCC. Blum said she has visited other marijuana cultivators with similar setups and odor has not been an issue. Meira Blum said they chose to have three to four 14” carbon filters rated at 1,200 cubic feet per minute, in each

greenhouse “specifically to ensure odor mitigation for our neighbors.”

Planning Board Chair Harry Comerford asked Carolyn Blum to refer his board to an existing facility similar to what she is proposing so they can visit it.

#### Tree cutting

Abutter Lucinda Childs asked if they will be clear cutting the lot to get sun to the greenhouses. Blum said they are cutting the trees and doing a lot of manual work. Childs asked if Blum has read the zoning bylaws of Hardwick. Blum said they had read them and they have confirmed that there are no wetlands in that specific spot.

#### Traffic and light concerns

Residents of North Road voiced concerns about increased traffic on the road caused by supply and distribution trucks. Meira Blum said “wholesale product will be delivered directly to retailers and manufacturers, they will not be arriving to our site.”

Hill said she was also concerned about the appearance of the fence, as “it will change the nature of the neighborhood.” Carolyn Blum said she appreciates the aesthetics of the town and the back

woods. “You’re not going to be able to see it. It will be obscured by trees,” she said. Another resident asked about lighting and if lights would be on all the time. Meira Blum said they want to be conservative with energy usage and will be using string lights to keep the plants in a vegetative state. Lighting inside the greenhouses will only be on during daytime hours, using about 1,000 watts for the entire operation. An outdoor motion-sensor light will be used for security reasons. One resident suggested using infrared lights instead and Blum agreed to explore that possibility.

#### Hours of operation

Budding Botanicals, LLC will be a seasonal facility and they will close for the winter.

#### Positive impact on community

As a cultivator, Blum said they will pay a 3% Community Impact Fee to the town. Hiring to complete the construction of the project will be done locally, such as electrician, engineer, setup, etc. The Blum’s said they would like to participate and help at local activities and look forward to attending the Hardwick Community Fair.

# The benefits of local newspapers

Local newspapers play vital roles in communities across the globe. The Information Age has changed the way many people get their news, but local newspapers continue to serve as valuable resources for readers interested in learning more about and becoming more involved in their communities.

While local publishers continue to adapt to the changes brought about by technology, the following are a handful of benefits unique to local newspapers.

- **Local newspapers keep readers up-to-date on their own communities.** Globalization may be here to stay, but that does not mean local communities are no longer home to newsworthy events. National and international newspapers and 24-hour cable news channels can keep men and women up-to-date on national and world news, but in many instances, local newspapers are the only means people have to learn about what’s going on in their own communities. Local politics impact residents’ lives every day, and

local newspapers cover local politics extensively.

- **Local newspapers benefit nearby businesses.** Small business owners often connect with community members via local newspapers. A strong, locally based small business community can improve economies in myriad ways, creating jobs in the community and contributing tax dollars that can be used to strengthen local schools and infrastructure. And local newspapers do their part by providing affordable and effective advertising space to local business owners looking to connect with their communities.

- **Local newspapers can strengthen communities.** Local newspapers are great resources for residents who want to become more active in their communities and learn more about community events. Local newspapers often showcase community events like carnivals, local theater productions and projects like park cleanups. These are great ways for readers to become

more active in their communities and build stronger communities as a result.

- **Local newspapers can benefit children.** National newspapers may have little age-appropriate content to offer young children, but local newspapers tend to include more soft news items than national periodicals, and such stories typically are appropriate for young readers. According to Newspapers in Education, students who participated in an NIE group in Florida performed significantly better in spelling and vocabulary than nonreaders.



Additional studies have indicated that students who use newspapers in the classroom perform better on standardized reading tests than those who do not use newspapers in class.

Many local newspapers have played vital roles in their communities for decades, providing a go-to resource for local readers and business owners.

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# Hardwick Recycling offers bulk waste and textile collection, April 24

**HARDWICK** – For those who are starting to clean out their homes, attics, barns, garages, basements, closets and other areas and need a place to bring those items, the Hardwick Recycling Center can help. Just load it all up and bring the items to the center’s Bulk Waste & Textile Collection Event being held on Saturday, on April 24, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Hardwick Recycling Center. The center is located at 2011 Barre Road in the village of Wheelwright.

It is not necessary to be a Hardwick Recycling Center patron to participate in this event. This event is open to all residents of Hardwick and surrounding towns. So, for those who are not patrons of the center, take some time while at the center to check it out and speak with staff to see the other services it offers.

**Reduce trash costs**

Those who pay by the bag for trash removal may find using the recycling center decreases the amount of trash, significantly reducing the cost for trash removal each year. Many of those who have curbside recycling services have chosen to remain or become

patrons of the recycling center so they can recycle the hard to manage items (electronics, appliances, tires, motor oil and other items) every day the center is open for operation throughout the year, instead of having to wait for a collection event to be held in their community.

**Bulk items, textiles**

Please note, there are fees per bulk waste item, tires, electronics, appliances, fluorescent bulbs and oil filters to cover the cost of hauling and processing.

Not only is it possible to get rid of those bulky, broken/ruined items, such as recliners, chairs, couches, mattresses, sinks, toilets, entertainment centers, suitcases, fencing and bulky styrofoam (bagged), it is also possible to bring in broken electronics, TVs, appliances, light bulbs, ballasts (PCB/non-PCB containing), thermometers, tires, used motor oil, used, scrap metal and textiles.

Some examples of textiles are: rags, clothing, socks/stockings, towels, linens, book bags, backpacks, pocketbooks, shoes, sneakers, boots, belts, pillows, blankets, fabric pieces/rolls, ribbons, yarns and laces. There is no need to worry about holes, stains or

socks and footwear missing their match. The only criteria for the textiles are that they are clean and completely dry.

**Swap shed**

The center also accepts items in its swap shed at no cost. Those items must be clean and in good working order. Some examples for the swap shed are books, audio books, CDs, cooking ware, dinnerware, knick-knacks, wall hangings, picture frames, children’s toys, tools, sporting equipment, board games, puzzles, spools of yarn and thread, curtains, bedding and shoes and boots. There is no cost to bring those items in. Recycling Center staff will inspect the items before allowing people to drop them off. PLEASE NOTE: We cannot accept any electronics/TV’s for drop off at the swap shed.

Come early as there is only one container for bulk waste. Once it is full we will not be accepting more bulk waste items until the fall.

Please contact the center at 413-477-8330 or visit the website [www.hardwickrecycles.org](http://www.hardwickrecycles.org) for further information and pricing of bulk waste items and hard to manage items.

# Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week’s mystery photo is from Hubbardston. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com) or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, April 19. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in next week’s edition. Bill Bowles, Gary Brigham, Dick Clark, Stephen Craven, Barbara Kempfski, Evelyn Luukko, Bruce Townner and Jeremy Varnum correctly identified the photo. Last week’s photo was the railroad bridge on Barre Road in the Old Furnace section of Hardwick.

# Coggeshall Farm Museum announces reopening

**BRISTOL, R.I.** – Coggeshall Farm Museum reopened its front gate admission to the public on March 20, after being closed to the public during the winter months.

Costumed interpreters will demonstrate early spring life on the 18th-century farm. Exhibitions will include textile demonstrations and the set-up of an historic loom, a furnished farmhouse and piglets born earlier in the year.

Set on 48 acres of coastal farmland in Bristol, R.I., Coggeshall Farm Museum tells the story of the Coggeshall family farm in the late 18th-century. The museum focuses on providing special new programming to interpret life in the 1790s from farming to daily home activities, such as gardening, fence-making, laundry, textiles and more. Activities that typically

take place inside of the historic buildings will be re-imagined in an outdoor setting to provide easier and safer access to the viewing public.

To manage capacity in accordance with Rhode Island guidelines, Coggeshall Farm Museum will be limiting the number of visitors. All visitors have the opportunity to purchase or reserve tickets in advance online at [www.coggeshallfarm.org](http://www.coggeshallfarm.org). Visitors are asked to follow state guidelines and wear face coverings or masks while at Coggeshall Farm Museum, especially when interacting with staff and other visitors. As an outdoor living history museum, safe social distancing is encouraged and will be monitored and hand sanitizing stations will be available through the historic grounds. Coggeshall

will also honor reciprocal membership with its sister museum and managing partner, Old Sturbridge Village.

Coggeshall is open Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for youth ages 4-17. Members of Coggeshall Farm Museum or Old Sturbridge Village can enter the museum free.

The Coggeshall Farm Museum preserves and interprets this 1790s Rhode Island salt-marsh farm. It serves the local community and beyond as a living museum and vital educational resource through demonstration of daily farm activity and honest interpretation that reflects its historical, multicultural influence. For details, people may visit: <https://www.coggeshallfarm.org/>.

# OSV receives largest single gift in the museum’s history of \$5 million

**STURBRIDGE** – Old Sturbridge Village announced the largest single gift received in the museum’s history with a five-million-dollar unrestricted bequest from the estate of Honorary Trustee and long-time friend of the village, Helen A. (Susie) Titus of Newport Beach, CA. Susie passed away in 2020 after a short illness.

This incredible gift comes at a critical time as the museum celebrates the 75th Anniversary of Old Sturbridge Village over the next eighteen months. The village plans to use this gift as the cornerstone of a planned capital campaign. The gift will ensure living history continues at Old Sturbridge Village in the future and address capital needs on the campus including the preservation of historic buildings and

landscape.

“I am grateful to Susie Titus for her dedication and commitment to Old Sturbridge Village, and for her confidence in our Board and staff to steward such a significant gift in her memory” said Jim Donahue, President and CEO. “Susie was incredibly supportive of the museum over the past twenty years, and we are grateful that she made such a generous provision for the village in her estate planning. Susie’s legacy and impact will live on for generations to come.”

Old Sturbridge Village has seen tremendous growth over the past several years. In 2017 the village opened Old Sturbridge Academy Charter Public School, which now has over 280 students. These students attend from a wide range

of communities throughout central Massachusetts. In January of 2020, Old Sturbridge Village announced a management partnership with Coggeshall Farm Museum in Bristol, Rhode Island. This partnership saw a successful first year in spite of the unprecedented times of COVID 19. As Old Sturbridge Village begins its 75th anniversary year, the village is positioned to have continued growth and innovative programming that will keep visitors engaged for many years to come.

Old Sturbridge Village, first opened to the public in 1946, is one of the country’s oldest and largest living history museums, celebrating life in early New England from 1790-1840. It is the largest living history museum in the Northeast.

# Virtual support groups offered for patients and families facing cancer

During a cancer journey, patients and their families often benefit from the support of others. Beginning April 1, virtual support groups will be held by Camille St.Onge, LICSW and oncology social worker. The groups are offered with the support of funds raised by the Walk of Champions event or fund-raisers.

“Offering support groups virtually brings people together regardless of their location,” said St. Onge. “Sharing concerns with a support group can be a beneficial way for people facing cancer to get the help they need to cope with the physical and emotional concerns that arise during and after a cancer diagnosis. While support and self-help groups can vary greatly, groups share one thing in common, they are a place where people can share personal stories, express emotions, and be heard in an atmosphere of acceptance, understanding, and encouragement.”

The support groups are designed to help patients, their families and caregivers cope with the challenges of a cancer diagnosis.

Virtual Support Group offered include: General Cancer Support Group, first Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Partners in Caregiving, second Wednesday of each month from 5-6:30 p.m.;

Expressive Writing through Cancer, third Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Breast Cancer Support Group, fourth Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

All meetings are held virtually due to COVID-19 restrictions. For more information, people may contact Camille St.Onge, LICSW, oncology social worker by calling 413-239-7239 or by email at [costomagin@gmail.com](mailto:costomagin@gmail.com).

# SELECTMEN continued from page 1

servation commission input on the DCR request regarding mosquito spraying. The town had until May 15 to opt out of the spraying and if it did so, must present an alternate plan. Selectman Urban said he was not a fan of spraying as it kills of insects and bats as well and the conservation commission might be more familiar with an alternate mosquito management plan.

# Send Us Your Summer Event Information

**Turley Publications will print your summer calendar listings FREE OF CHARGE in our SUMMERFEST Supplement which publishes early June.**

**Deadline for submissions is May 4th.**

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# Gobi files bill addressing lost revenue to MassWildlife

BOSTON – Senator Anne Gobi (D-Spencer), co-Chair of the Massachusetts Legislative Sportsmen’s Caucus and past Chair of the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture, has filed a bill in the 192nd session of the General Court aimed at addressing lost revenue that the state is failing to reimburse to the Massachusetts Division of Fish and Wildlife. SD. 1453, An Act to Reimburse the Inland Fisheries and Game Fund, would target the

more than \$1 million/year the agency forfeits each year by providing free hunting and fishing licenses to residents aged over 70, which is not currently being reimbursed by the state. Gobi had this to say on the bill, “Our sportsmen and women play a critical role in conservation and the fees from licenses have made sure land is set aside, not just for hunting and fishing but for many types of recreation such as hiking and bird watching. Offering free

license to those over a certain age is the right thing to do, especially now when we want people to enjoy the outdoors. Reimbursing that lost revenue is also the right thing to do. I appreciate the support I have received including from the Nature Conservancy and the Trustees.” The losses accrued in this area are expected to grow as the 70+ population increases. While the state does offset discounted licenses for those aged 65-69,

they have failed to address the growing losses from the hunting and fishing licenses of those aged over seventy. This legislation targets that inconsistency while raising desperately needed funds for the agency tasked with overseeing sportsmen and women’s activities while conserving and restoring critical habitat. For more information on the legislation, people may contact Senator Gobi’s office by email at Anne.Gobi@MASenate.gov.

## SEWER PROJECT, continued from page 1

offer for prepayment and in fact has responded with a demand for special rate consideration in exchange for prepayment approval. Not returning EHS to rate paying status will necessitate a significant sewer user rate increase to the residents of the Town, something the Agency will not support.”

### Leadership concerns

Lerch said the USDA also had “grave concerns about town leadership willingness to support fair and equal treatment going forward. This in turn raises concerns about the ability or willingness of town leadership to implement a plan and collect revenues necessary to complete a massive infrastructure project, to provide for its care and operation and even to make Agency loan payments over the 40-year repayment plan.” Because of this Lerch said, “the project will be suspended and Agency work on this project will cease until or unless the EHS contract is settled and town leadership is more fully engaged and supportive of this project.”

### EHS letter with conditions

Finance Committee member Cheryl Wolfe asked

Young if the letter received from Eagle Hill School did not complete the requirement. Young said Eagle Hill School cannot put conditions on the agreement, they need to pay a fair and equitable user fee or rate according to the EDUs (equivalent dwelling unit). McDonald said selectmen did receive a response from the Board of Trustees by the Executive Committee, which according to the school’s bylaws has authority to represent the school between meetings. Young acknowledged the school’s response, but said the USDA did not accept the conditions in that response.

The original letter from the school said it would accept the buy out if nine conditions were met, including its equivalent dwelling unit cost, or EDU, be the same as that for a single-family residence, that the school not be subject to betterment fees and that new pumping station necessary for the revamped system not be located on the Town Common.

Town Administrator Theresa Cofske said she felt the president of the Board of Trustees should communicate directly with the town instead of through McDonald, to assist in moving this forward. McDonald said he would be “happy to assist in any way in moving this forward.” McDonald said he will

still be involved with that communication with the town as Marilyn Waller, Board of Trustees president, has “not been deeply involved in this.” Cofske said she understood that Waller and other trustees had not been very involved, but it was “just not working” by communicating with McDonald and Erik Fleming. Cofske said this situation “deserves the attention of the full Board of Trustees.”

She said this project has been a long time coming and they only have a two-year window to complete it, of which 10 months have already passed.

McDonald said they have only really asked for two things, which include concerns about their rate increase. The other is the construction of a pump station on the Hardwick Common. “I think it would be a tragedy for the town,” McDonald said.

He also said he wanted to “set the record straight” regarding misinformation regarding the school’s involvement in this process. He said they responded in a timely manner to the offer letter and asked for a 30-day extension, of which they used one week. McDonald said the school is in full support of this project, they just want it to be equitable for all. He said that Liz Cyran, Sewer Commissioner, stated that Eagle Hill School is looking for “preferential treatment” and a frozen rate,

of which he says, “none of that is true.” He said the “idea that we’re not engaged in this process, engaged in this town, is not true.”

Young asked McDonald if Eagle Hill School would accept the \$1.8 if they were assured they would be treated fairly and what their rates would be. McDonald said if the rates are fair and equitable, then “they already have a deal.” Young said the sewer commissioners put the rates in place, not the Board of

Selectmen, and that they will have the attorneys involved to work this out.

“There hasn’t been the unity to stand for what needs to be done in this town, and now, everything that has been worked toward, everything that has been brought forward, which is a path to a bright future for the town of Hardwick, stands still,” Cofske said.

She urged those attending the meeting to “move forward” and fix a “huge problem.” Cofske said the townspeople need to take control of their town and future and be a voice, and that she would welcome Eagle Hill School to be a part of the solution. She said they will not give Eagle Hill School special privileges or special rates, “it’s unacceptable.”

### School worries about rates

Cofske said she understood McDonald’s concern the school would be subjected to sewer and betterments rates that were unfair, but said the town is bound by specific law to set those rates. They cannot assign sewer rates to Eagle Hill School that are outside of state standard. Cofske said their current rate is not within standard and that is why the USDA brought RCAP Solutions on to conduct an independent rate study. Cofske said she recommends the town responds to McDonald’s letter and make it clear what the town will be doing and assure him that assessments will be fair as bound by law.

McDonald said that is exactly what he and the Board of Trustees are looking for. He said the town owes the school \$2.3 million it loaned the municipality, and have agreed to take \$1.8 million in return. He said before they forgive \$500,000 of what the town owes them, they just want to know what they will be owing “on the other side.”

He said the first eight conditions in his response are related to finances. Cofske said they will not have a true number for betterments until the construction is done. Cofske said the longer they wait to complete the project, the higher the betterments could become for all sewer users. She said they will work with town counsel to generate a response to Eagle Hill School. Cofske said the town needs the assurance that Eagle Hill School will accept the \$1.8 million and that they will pay their sewer rate and betterments.

### Start of economic development

Cofske said once the town gets out from under the sewer project, they can focus on economic development. She referenced the mill in Gilbertville, saying it was under new owners who are waiting on the sewer infrastructure. Cofske said they also have \$5 million for roadway improvements for downtown Gilbertville, making it pedestrian and bicyclist-friendly, and improving traffic flow. She said the Conversation Commission is working with the East Quabbin Land Trust to improve the Fitness Trail, gazebo and canoe launch. The re-development of the mill would result in an increase of jobs and boost tourism. “We could be a destination,” Cofske said. “The one thing we’re missing right now is big infrastructure, and it looks like the money to do it. We don’t have time.”

### SelectBoard support

Lerch characterized two-thirds of the board as being resistant to the project and Young as being engaged in the process. She also said the agency hopes the selectmen can unify in support of the project, which would “include efforts to limit the role and reach of Eagle Hill School as a priority where it comes to public projects.”

Quink said there is a “very strained relationship” amongst the board, but she stands behind getting this project done. She said she is viewed as being resistant because she asks questions when she does not feel comfortable with something. “I am happy to help out however I can...I just want to be informed,” Quink said. She has tried to contact both Cofske and Lerch, she said. “I’m behind this, why would I not be?” Quink said. Quink said both Cofske and Young deserve credit for the work they have done. She said at the last joint meeting, there was a lot of information “thrown” at the board that night. “It was a lot to process,” she said. Quink said she believes that “everyone has to pay their fair share,” pertaining to the sewer rates.

Wolfe said they need to get that letter drafted to continue and ensure the process be fair to everybody, including Eagle Hill. Board of Selectmen member Kelly Kemp said “Never have I not wanted to see this project go through. Every single one of us has wanted to see this project move forward.” Kemp said she is happy to hear the issues everyone has will be addressed. Young told McDonald he will be receiving a letter from the town about what they discussed.

Cyran asked to comment and said the town needs “somebody that is in there 110% for the town of Hardwick,” and support Cofske and Young. Quink responded to Cyran, “I said I would support what is happening...I am in here 110%.” Quink said if there was any concern about what her motives are, she is here, ready to answer questions people may have. Cofske said in order to support the project, all board members need to support the staff. Quink said if Cofske needs her help, she is here.

Young told McDonald that they would be sending a letter and asked McDonald to respond as quickly as possible. McDonald offered to have a Zoom session with all involved parties to address concerns quickly and Young agreed.

Eileen Kennedy contributed to this report.

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## With barely enough for a team, Pathfinder shows Pioneer spirit



Quarterback and team captain Jordan Talbot escapes a tackle during the shortened game against Northampton. In the background is head coach Joseph Baldyga.

By Jonah Snowden  
jsnowden@turley.com

PALMER – Sports is supposed to build character and the Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical School football team showed it has plenty of it.

The Pioneers demonstrated their willingness to persevere through any obstacles, regardless of the outcome, during a recent game against Northampton High School's Blue Devils. The team went into the March 28 game with only 13 eligible players and despite the disadvantage, came to play. The game was called at halftime with Pathfinder on the long end of a 35-0 score. Coach Joseph Baldyga said despite the effort, he had to consider the team's health and safety and decided it was best to call it a day and regroup for the next game.

Pathfinder Director of Athletics and Baldyga both said the reason for the short-handed roster last week was a combination of some play-

ers losing academic eligibility because of low grades, several who left the team to take after-school jobs, and a few students being forced into quarantine because of COVID-19.

Baldyga said he is still proud of his players, especially the core group that barely made up enough to actually take the field.

"They've been super committed and pretty much 15 of them have only missed maybe one or two practices," Baldyga said.

"They've been really great at showing up and putting in the work. We're really coaching them up hard and we're trying to get better as a program and I got to give the kids a ton of credit for their commitment."

Even after having to concede a game with a half to play, Baldyga said he is optimistic for the team's future.

"I think this particular group are just really passionate about the sport of football,"

See PATHFINDERL, page 11



Senior Richard Martin (34), a fullback and linebacker and also a team captain, and Austin Lagimoniere (21) both try to get their hands on the ball during the game against the Blue Devils. The Pioneers played despite having only 13 eligible players.

## Gameplay largely unaffected in baseball modifications

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – While gameplay will remain largely the same, many high school baseball players will have to change a number of habits at least to start the baseball season in May.

Baseball is a game of superstition, habitual repetition of certain motions and the needed to do things like spit seeds and chew gum.

But under the modifications to the sport made by the Office of Environmental and Energy Affairs, players will have to refrain some certain behaviors, wear masks, and maintain distance despite the game itself involving a lot of distance.

The EEA, which has been making modifications to high school sports and working with the MIAA to ensure safe play during the pandemic, did not have to do much to change how the game of baseball is played. But a number of the "dirty" habits needed to be curtailed to make it safer.

Consumption and spitting of sunflower and other seeds are prohibited this season. Players also cannot chew or spit during games. Spitting is also a major habit in baseball, and is banned for high schoolers and adults.

In high school, following warm-ups each half-inning, it is common for infielders, the catcher, and pitcher to have a brief "hype-up" huddle. That action is now banned to limit close contact among players.

If a coach wants to bring the infield into a huddle to discuss a strategy, six-foot distancing is required. Otherwise, the EEA is encouraging coaches to limit mound visits in general, and typically just to one coach, a pitcher, and a catcher.

High-fives and hand shakes are also extremely common in baseball, especially after a runner scores or an at-bat

See BASEBALL, page 11

## Sign up for Quabbin Valley Baseball

REGION – The Quabbin Valley Baseball League is an age 28-and-over league which plays its games Sundays at 10 a.m. beginning in late April and concluding in late August. It is a six-team league and a 15-game schedule with all teams getting at least one playoff game at the end of August.

The league is seeking new players to join in the fun. The cost to play in 2021 is \$192.50 and registration can be found at [www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org](http://www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org). Games are mostly being played this year in Easthampton and South Hadley. Players who wish to pitch in the league must be 30-years-old.

Sign-ups are active and players who are not already on a team will be placed in a draft, currently scheduled to take place on Sunday, April 11.

The league's first games are tentatively scheduled for Sunday, April 25. For the 2021 season, there is a mask-wearing rule, as well as modifications that prohibit any type of spitting or close contact, and players are required to take out all trash they bring in with them. The league allows the use of BBCOR-certified -3 bats as well as wood bats. Games are nine innings and all players who participate get to hit and play the field. For more information or to contact someone from the league, go to the league's website.

## Racing action kicks off at Icebreaker event

THOMPSON, Conn. — Hudson, NH's Derek Griffith went wire-to-wire to capture the Pro All Stars Series (PASS) Thompson 75 at the annual Icebreaker on Saturday, April 10. Griffith grabbed the lead in the first corner and was on a rail from there, claiming victory in the headliner for the afternoon session of the 82nd Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park season opener.

Griffith's win kept the young star perfect on the PASS Super Late Model season. He captured both PASS National Easter Bunny 150 events at North Carolina's Hickory Motor Speedway the previous weekend. Now Griffith also has a win in the PASS North championship opener.

It took less than 500 feet for Griffith to get to the front at Thompson. He started second after winning the second qualifying heat, and when polesitter Ben Rowe had trouble coming up to speed, Griffith and several others shot past.

The only thing that could slow Griffith was the race's lone caution on lap 3 when Garrett Hall tagged the backstretch wall. When the



Submitted photos

Sean Newcomb also picked up a win.

field went green again, Griffith put the hammer down. Rowley, MA's Eddie "The Outlaw" MacDonald gave chase as best he could, and could narrow the gap some in traffic, but Griffith restored his margin every time they got clear.

Even as multiple other drivers had strong runs go sour in the unseasonable warm weather, Griffith never wavered. He ultimately put more than half the

field a lap down and cruised to an impressive win.

"I love it here," Griffith said after the race. "I tell people all the time about how cool the Icebreaker is and how big of a weekend it is. You know we travel everywhere and not everybody understands how big of a weekend it is — and not just for PASS...so to come get another (win) here is pretty cool. It's definitely one to mark off."



Keith Rocco was a winner at last weekend's Icebreaker event.

MacDonald finished second with Center Conway, NH's Gabe Brown a comfortable third. Rowe recovered from his early troubles and held off Rowland Robinson Jr. for fourth. Reigning PASS North champion D.J. Shaw, Johnny Clark, Corey Casagrande, Mike Scorzelli, and Dan Winter rounded out the top-10.

Berlin, CT's Keith Rocco came out on top of a barnburner to win the Sunoco Modified season opener. Rocco started fourth in the 30-lap main event and took the lead from Oxford, MA's Troy Talman on a lap-9 restart after Christian Turissi's spin.

Wolcott, CT's Mike Christopher moved into the runner-up spot following the second caution on lap 13. Rocco and Christopher pulled away from the field nose-to-tail for several laps, but with seven to go,

See RACING, page 11

## Worcester State suffers tough loss

LYNN - The Worcester State University baseball team had no answer for Fisher College in the final game of a five-game series on Friday afternoon, as the Falcons took care of the Lancers by a final score of 22-4 in non-conference action at Fraser Field.

With the loss, Worcester State drops to 8-3 overall on the season.

Worcester State got the offense started on the day, putting a pair on the scoreboard in the top of

the first inning to take an early advantage. Senior Pat Galvin (Shrewsbury, Mass.) and junior Sean Devin (Lynn, Mass.) delivered the RBIs for the Lancers in the frame.

The Lancers added another in the top of the second to extend their lead to 3-0 on an RBI double from junior Joe Rogato (Methuen, Mass.), before Fisher opened the floodgates. The Falcons scored three in the bottom of the inning to

tie the score, but added eight in the bottom of the third to take a commanding 11-3 lead through three.

Sophomore Zack Roberts (Northbridge, Mass.) got one run back for Worcester State in the top of the fourth with an RBI single, but that would cap the Lancer offense for the afternoon. Fisher scored three in the fifth inning and four in the sixth and seventh innings to give the game its final score of 22-4.

## Photos wanted for Panthers sports

BARRE – With the upcoming season and a limited number of games and opportunities to feature current athletes, the Barre Gazette is in need of and is welcoming any and all photo submissions of Fall 2 sports beginning next week. If you are interested in either taking or submitting photos from Quabbin games for use in the Barre Gazette, please contact editor Gregory A. Scibelli at sports@turley.com.



# Keep in touch with kids at camp

Summer camp is an exciting way for children to spend their extended vacations from the classroom. Camps cater to various interests, including sports, crafts and even technological hobbies.

Children who attend overnight camps may spend several nights away from home. Some kids take this in stride, while others, possibly away from home for the first time, may experience some homesickness. Staying in touch while the kids are at camp can help alleviate fears and show children their parents care.

Camps now handle communication issues differently than they might have when today's parents were campers. While it once common for campers to send handwritten letters or short missives home to mom and dad, technology has changed that. Today's campers may have access to email accounts, or they even may be allowed to bring mobile phones along. This can facilitate communication, but it also may take away from the camping experience.

Parents need to find a balance between what might be too little or too much contact with campers. After all, camp is kids' chance to grow independent for a few days or weeks.

- Learn camp rules. The camp will likely provide information regarding correspondence. Camps may permit parents to send one-way emails and regular mail, but limit campers to handwritten letters only. Determine if mobile phones are allowed or

should be left at home. Knowing the rules can help parents and kids plan accordingly.

- Pack correspondence supplies. Send kids to camp with fun papers, stickers, pens, and other crafty items. This way they'll be inspired to write home once or twice. Provide brief lessons on how to address an envelope for campers who may not know how.
- Check blogs and texts. Some camps may blog about campers' progress, post information on social media or send out mass texts. These messages can reassure parents that their youngsters are doing just fine. Figure out which tech options are available from camp administrators.
- Send a care package. Treat the campers to some supplies from home. Pack camp-approved snacks and other reminders of home. Be sure to include enough for the entire cabin and your son or daughter will be the camp star.
- Expect some silence. If camp is going well and campers' days are fun-filled, they may be too busy for daily correspondence. Parents may get nervous when they don't routinely see or hear from their children, but chances are everything is going swimmingly.

The camp experience is often harder on parents than children, as campers have their friends and activities to keep them busy. Brief communication helps campers grow more confident and independent.



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**What are the signs of dehydration?**  
Johns Hopkins Medicine notes that people experience dehydration differently. However, there are some common symptoms that indicate someone is dehydrated.

ed. These symptoms include:

- thirst,
- less frequent urination,
- dry skin,
- fatigue,
- light-headedness,
- dizziness,
- confusion, and
- dry mouth and mucous membranes,
- increased heart rate and breathing.

Children who are dehydrated may exhibit additional symptoms, including dry mouth and tongue; no tears and crying; no wet diapers for several hours; sunken abdomen, eyes or cheeks; listlessness; irritability; and skin that does not flatten when pinched and released.

How to prevent dehydration

Drinking plenty of fluids when working or playing in the sun is one way to prevent dehydration. Being sure to take in more fluid than you are losing is another way to prevent dehydration.

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## Prevent dehydration during the dog days of summer

A person's desire to be outdoors can sometimes be at odds with the outdoors itself. The dead of winter tends to be a time of year when people know to stay indoors, but the dog days of summer can be dangerous as well.

Heat-related diseases like dehydration can put lives at risk. According to Johns Hopkins Medicine, children and people over the age of 60 are particularly susceptible to dehydration. Understanding dehydration and how to prevent it is essential for anyone who plans to spend time outside during the summer.

What is dehydration?

The U.S. National Library of Medicine notes that a dehydrated body does not have enough fluid and electrolytes to work properly. On an average day, the human body needs about three quarts of water. But the USNLM notes that anyone planning to spend time outside in the hot sun needs significantly more water than that to avoid dehydration.

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How to prevent dehydration

Drinking plenty of fluids when working or playing in the sun is one way to prevent dehydration. Being sure to take in more fluid than you are losing is another way to prevent dehydration.

dration. Anyone, and especially people who sweat a lot, should keep a close eye on fluid loss when spending time outdoors in the summer. Sports drinks that help people maintain their electrolyte balance, such as Gatorade, can help prevent dehydration as well. Pedialyte is often recommended for sick infants or children who have experienced vomiting, as it can help restore electrolyte balance that was adversely affected when kids became sick. The solution can be equally effective at restoring electrolyte balance that was thrown off

during heat exposure.

Dehydration poses a significant health risk at any time of year, but people who spend time out in the summer heat may be especially vulnerable. Limiting time spent outdoors on hot days and keeping a close eye on your fluid intake and fluid levels can help prevent dehydration.



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## Sports

# MIAA hosts virtual wellness summit

FRANKLIN – The Annual Wellness Summit, which was offered at no cost and intended for student leaders and school personnel, included a morning and afternoon session each day. Over 500 participants were engaged in 12 interactive workshops covering subjects such as student and staff mental health, self-care and resiliency, substance misuse prevention, promoting support for LGBTQ students, suicide prevention, sports injury prevention, clean eating and diet culture and student leadership and teamwork. Participants included students, teachers, nurses, school administrators, wellness coordinators and school resource officers.

Workshop presenters included members of the MIAA Partners in Prevention, a powerful collabora-

tion of public and private prevention agencies and initiatives. These agencies provide generous support, resources and expertise in the delivery of wellness services and programs. Presenters included: Ivy Watts (Ivy Watts Speaks), Jeff Perrotti (DESE Safe Schools Program for LGBTQ Students), Charity Bell (MA Department of Mental Health), Robert Hackenson, Jr. (Dynamic Influence), Student Advisory Committee (SAC) (MIAA), Jon Mattleman (Minding Your Mind), Kendra McDonald (Samaritans), Dr. Andrew Chen and Kate Fischer (University Orthopedics), Theresa Melito-Connors (Dr. MC's Self Care Cabaret), Monika Ostroff (MEDA), Chris Sullivan (Not in the Playbook) and Kathi Meyer Sullivan (Taylor's Message).

# Valley Wheel Baseball seeks new players

REGION – The Valley Wheel Over-30 Baseball League is looking for new players for the 2021 season, which is set to begin at the end of April. Players who are 28-years-old prior to June 1 are eligible to play in the league this season, however, only those 30 by June 1 are eligible to pitch. The league includes six teams and there is a 15-game season that begins on Sunday, April 25. Games are 12 Sundays, a special Mother's Day weekend Saturday game, and two weekday night games under the lights. The season ends the final week of July with the

playoffs for the top four teams during the first two weeks of August. Tryouts are set for the first three weekends in April. Tryouts will be Saturday, April 3, Sunday, April 11, and Sunday, April 18, all weather-permitting. A draft for new players will be held after the final tryout. All players bat and every player spends at least four innings in the field. The league will be playing with some minor modifications due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information, please contact League Commissioner Jim Nason at wheel12@comcast.net.

## Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and

share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections in the coming weeks, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

## PATHFINDER, continued from page 9

Baldyga said. "They want to get learn and get better and have given such tremendous effort and have great attitudes. My coaching staff are super excited every day for practice. We had some good routines we go through, trying to improve our skills and I think the kids enjoy being back to normal. When you are out on the field,

even though we are wearing a mask, it's their two hours of the day they're doing something they love.

Pioneer players, such as team captain and quarterback Jordan Talbot, offered similar sentiments about his teammates and the game against The Blue Devils.

"We are a young team and even though we only have 13 players on the team they come everyday, put in the work to get better, and have a lot to prove,"

## RACING continued from page 9

the real battle began. Christopher dove inside Rocco entering turn 3, the first of what would be six passes in as many laps. Rocco, however, kept putting his Modified out front at the start/finish line where it counted.

As the duo got the two-to-go signal, Christopher finally had the lead by a nose at the line and cleared Rocco entered turn one. Rocco went back underneath him in the third turn, and the two banged nerf bars. Christopher slid up the track, allowing Rocco to get away for another victory in his dominating Thompson Speedway career.

Talman and Todd Owen also got past Christopher thanks to the late contact, finishing second and third in the final run-down. Christopher had to settle for fourth. Danny Cates, Jonathan Puleo, John Lowinski-Loh, Richard Williams, Jason Sundeen, and Paul LaPlante completed the top-10.

Franklin, MA's Bobby Santos III kicked off his Icebreaker weekend with a victory in the 25-lap NEMA LITES Midgits feature. Santos started seventh in the Matt and Bob Seymour-owned #1, and after a slow start, began him march to the front. He inherited the second spot on lap 13 when Dan Cugini's Midget shut down, then caught leader Jim Santa Maria with eight laps to go.

One lap later, Santos drove

beneath Santa Maria on the front stretch and cleared him entering turn 1. It was no contest from there as Santos sailed to the victory.

Santa Maria came in second followed by Jake Trainor. Kyle Valeri, Richie Coy, Paul Scally, Christopher Vose, Tiana Kibbe, Matt Seavy, and Cugini finched fourth through 10th.

Plymouth, MA Paul Newcomb ended a frenetic two days on a high note by winning the 25-lap Street Stock Open feature. Newcomb started fourth and found an opening early, muscling beneath polesitter Ryan Yerman in turn four to take the lead after two laps.

Candia, NH's Jimmy Renfrew Jr. was the only driver who could even come close to hanging with Newcomb on the ensuing green-flag run. Renfrew got a shot on a restart with eight laps to go after Zachary Mead's spin. But the #00 got loose exiting turn four the following lap. Renfrew eventually slid back to fourth as Newcomb marched to the victory.

Waterman finished second with Kyle Gero third. Joe Kohler, Wayne Coury, Bobby Segar Jr., Devin McConologue, Justin Travis, and Nick Hovey also earned top-10 finishes.

Freeport, NY's Gerard Giordano Jr. won a photo finish over Warwick, RI's Ryan Vanasse in the 35-lap EXIT Realty Pro Truck Challenge feature. Vanasse had pulled away in the middle stages of the event, but Giordano

Talbot said. "Northampton was a tough team to start the season off with but we got some good looks and some things we can work on throughout the season to take with the younger guys next year and to build the team's chemistry and numbers in the future."

Baldyga said he cannot wait for parents to be allowed to return to the games and watch their kids play and for other fans to be able to show their support in person.

had the better long-run truck and ran him down with seven laps to go. The fourth and final caution came out soon after, setting up a four-lap dash to the finish.

Vanasse initially cleared Giordano on the restart. With two laps to go, though, Giordano ducked back inside. Entered turn for the final time, the duo touched and got sideways. After gathering it up, they banged doors again coming to the line. It was Giordano, the former series champion, edging Vanasse by 0.015 seconds for the win.

Waterford, CT's Emma Monahan had a strong run for third. Duane Noll, Connor Souza, Joe Arena, Andy Lindeman, Todd Taylor, Joseph Coates, and Randy Coates opened their season with top-10 finishes.

Sterling, CT's Jared Roy continued his domination of the Thompson Mini Stocks with a victory in their 15-lap feature. Roy came from seventh on the starting grid to run down Steven Michalski at the halfway mark. After ducking inside Michalski as the leaders completed lap nine, Roy completed the pass entering turn one a circuit later.

Coming out of turn four the next time around, Michalski broke loose and spun to bring out the race's only caution. Roy had a rear-view mirror full of Gales Ferry, CT's Thomas Silva over the final four laps, but held on for the victory. Dave Trudeau, Douglas Curry, and Charles Canfield completed the top-five.

## Education

# Former state Senator Brewer to speak at MWCC graduation

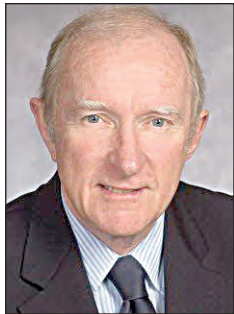
GARDNER – Mount Wachusett Community College will be holding its commencement ceremonies virtually on May 19, 2021. The MWCC Class of 2021 will be joined by Keynote Speaker Senator Stephen M. Brewer.

Brewer grew up on a farm in Barre, in central Massachusetts and throughout his time in the State House has worked to protect agricultural land and open space. In 1971 he earned a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and a master's in history from Assumption College in 1974.

His political career began in 1977 when he was elected to the Barre Board of Selectmen where he served until 1984. In the 1980s

he worked as an aide to state Sen. Robert Wetmore before being elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1988. In 1996 Brewer was elected to represent the Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex District, the second-largest Senate district in the state, made up of 28 communities.

During his time in the Senate, Brewer chaired the powerful Senate Committee on Ways and Means and served on the Senate Committee on Ethics and Rules and the Joint Committee on Rules. Previously, he served as Senate vice-chair of the



Senator Stephen Brewer

Joint Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture, as vice-chair of the Public Safety & Homeland Security Committee, and as a member of the Joint Committee on Public Safety.

Senator Brewer retired in 2014 after 26 years in the state Legislature. He continues to be involved

in a variety of events at MWCC, where the Brewer Center for Civic Learning and Community Engagement is named in his honor. He is a resident of Barre, where he lives with his wife, Valerie and is the proud father of their two daughters, April and Audrey.

## Rachel Rathbun participates in college art project

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – A new creative collaboration opportunity has Cedarville University students joining forces to produce multimedia art projects. "The Duos Project: A Collaborative Experience" connects visual artists with writers for the purpose of creating a final project incorporating both writing and images.

English major Rachel Rathbun of Hubbardston has been overseeing the project since its inception

in January. Aaron Gosser, associate professor of studio art, contributed significantly with exhibition resources and project approval. Further, he worked to help provide email lists for reaching out to students.

With six groupings of students, and two groups having three students, a total of 14 participants will participate in this year's exhibition. Projects include poetry, computer illustrations, fiction shorts and

paintings, among other media types.

The exhibition will be available for viewing in Cedarville's Dixon Ministry Center from April 14-16. Once displayed, Rachel plans to photograph the pieces and post them online for viewing by those unable to attend in person. Rathbun hopes to continue the project in future years and use feedback from the 2021 installment to improve subsequent collaborations.

## MWCC launches first credit dual language program

GARDNER – Mount Wachusett Community College announces the launch of the new dual language business administration certificate program, providing a bilingual educational experience for Spanish speaking students.

This dual language program gives students the ability to earn college credit with courses in their native language concurrently with English as a second language courses. The contextualized English as a second language courses will focus on content the students are learning in the certificate program.

Upon completion, the dual language program students will be ready to enroll in the associate

degree in business administration program or enter the workforce as bilingual employees with a background in business.

The dual language program will be offered with The Mount's new hyflex learning model. The hyflex learning model streams classes live, allowing students to attend in-person at our Leominster campus or online.

"The hyflex program allows us to remove common barriers for students – transportation, childcare – as well as provide a safe choice for those, who have or cannot be vaccinated against COVID-19," states Melissa Sargent, assistant dean of academic affairs.

In July, MWCC will be offering

two free courses to prepare students for the start of the fall semester. Spanish for bilingual speakers, an intermediate-level course designed for students, who have a conversational knowledge of Spanish, but little or no formal preparation in the language will be offered, along with foundations of mathematics which will prepare students for the certificate level math course. In order to enroll in the program, students need to be proficient in Spanish.

To learn more about the program, people may visit mwcc.edu/espanol. To schedule for the summer courses, people may contact admissions at 978-630-9110 or via email to admissions@mwcc.edu.

## BASEBALL, continued from page 9

has been completed. While fist-bumps are not specifically banned, the EEA says players must refrain from hand-touching, which includes high-fives, and handshakes. Like all sports, the post-game handshake is suspended until the pandemic has ended.

In order to increase grip on the bat, many players often spit on their hands and/or batting

gloves. That practice is also not allowed, especially in the case of players sharing bats.

All shared equipment, specifically batting helmets and bats, and in some cases, catcher's gear, must all be properly sanitized between uses by different players. However, it can be shared unlike previous seasons and other sports where equipment could not be shared at all.

Game-play itself, is otherwise unaffected. While masks

# QCC earns 2021-2022 Military Friendly® School designation

WORCESTER – Quinsigamond Community College earned the 2021-2022 Military Friendly® School designation.

Institutions earning the Military Friendly® School designation were evaluated using both public data sources and responses from a proprietary survey. Over 1,200 schools participated in the 2021-2022 survey with 747 earning the designation.

"This award is an honor for QCC and all the veterans who attend here. We pride ourselves on our commitment to our vets. We are extremely proud of every service person who walks through our doors," said QCC's Veteran Affairs director, Paula Ogden.

The 2021-2022 Military Friendly® Schools list will be published in the May issue of G.I. Jobs magazine and can be found at www.militaryfriendly.com. Methodology, criteria, and weightings were determined by Victory with input from the Military Friendly® Advisory Council of independent leaders in the higher education and military recruitment community. Final ratings were determined by combining the institution's survey response set and government/agency public data sources, within a logic based scoring assessment.

"Schools that achieve designation show true commitment and dedication in their efforts. Our standards assist schools by providing a benchmark that promotes positive educational outcomes, resources, and support services that better the educational landscape and provide opportunity for the military community," said National Director of Military Partnerships, Military Friendly®, Kayla Lopez.



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## WHITCO



# Obituaries

## DEATH NOTICES

**Cutting, John A.**  
Died April 8, 2021  
Services are Private

**Simeone, Fannie M.**  
Died April 10, 2021  
Funeral Mass April 16 at noon  
St. Thomas A Becket Church

### John A. Cutting, 72

SOUTH BARRE – It is with great sadness that we announce the death of John A. Cutting on April 8, 2021 at the age of 72. He was born Jan. 19, 1949 in Worcester, the son of Merritt E. and Jessie (Taft) Cutting. He was a life-long resident of South Barre.

John was a 1967 graduate of Barre High School where he played basketball and baseball, attended Quinsigamond Community College and was a Vietnam Navy veteran.

He was a member of the International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers for over 40 years. He worked locally and traveled to various states around the country, retiring 10 years ago.

John was a devoted father, a kind and generous brother, friend and neighbor and a caring guardian of his family home. He loved the majesty and beautiful details of nature, the



birds and their songs, a bright blue sky and warm sunshine. He enjoyed gardening. He raised vegetables, colorful zinnias and snapdragons to the delight of local farmers' market patrons. He loved driving on country roads, the Quabbin, fishing with his buddies and he never

missed a Red Sox game. John was predeceased by his parents, and is survived by his daughters, Jody Davignon (Larry) of Randolph, Vermont and Kimberly Michel (Jeffrey) of Cambridge, N.Y.; his sister, Jane Longmire, of Belmont; five grandchildren and two nephews, all of whom meant the world to him.

Burial at Glen Valley Cemetery in Barre will be private. Donations in John's name can be made to The Massachusetts Audubon Society. Online remembrance and condolence may be made at <https://www.dayfunerals.com/guestbook/john-cutting>.

### Fannie M. (Maio) Simeone, 92

BARRE – Fannie M. (Maio) Simeone, 92, passed away peacefully on Saturday, April 10, 2021 at the Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center in West Brookfield.

Fannie is survived by two sons, Gary (wife Susan) of West Brookfield and Robert (wife Marlene) of Barre; a daughter-in-law Lynda Simeone of West Boylston; five grandchildren, Jeffrey, Jennifer, Rebekah, Andrew and Therese Simeone, their spouses/partners, and a great granddaughter Emelia Simeone; her sister, Angelina Jolly of Milton, GA; brothers, Nunziato Maio of Portland, CT, and Anthony Maio of Paxton; many nieces and nephews; family (both locally and in Italy) and friends. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Amerigo (April 9, 2020) and a son, Michael (April 2, 2010).

Born on Sept. 18, 1928, she was the daughter of Filippo and Rosa (Orlando) Maio. A lifelong resident of Barre, Fannie graduated from Barre High School in 1946. She continued her education and graduated from Salter Secretarial School in Worcester. She married her sweetheart, Amerigo ("Mike") in 1951. While raising their family, she was employed briefly by the former Barre Wool Combining Co. and then by the former H.H. Brown Shoe Co. of Worcester as Executive Secretary for over 27 years until the company closed. She continued employment as an Office Manager at Hardwick Laminators in Gilbertville, retiring in 1999.



Fannie was a communicant of St. Francis of Assisi (formerly St. Thomas a Becket) Parish in Barre, former member and officer of the Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion (George L. Thorng Post 404), and a frequent participant at the Barre Senior Center, serving with her husband on numerous volunteer events and efforts. She was a breast cancer survivor, an avid reader, excellent knitter, enjoyed doing all sorts of word puzzles and deeply cherished time with her grandchildren. In their retirement years, Fannie and Mike enjoyed vacation time with siblings and spouses, sight-seeing day trips, trips to naval reunions, and two trips to Italy visiting relatives on both occasions.

The family would like to thank the kind and compassionate staff at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center who took such good care of Fannie over the past few years.

A funeral Mass will be held on Friday, April 16, 2021 at noon in St Thomas A Becket Church Vernon Avenue, South Barre. Calling hours will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. prior to the Mass in Pillsbury Funeral Home, 96 South Barre Road, Barre. Burial will be in St. Josephs Cemetery in Barre. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her name may be made to the Barre Senior Center 40 West St., Suite 433, Barre MA 01005 or Quaboag Rehabilitation & Skilled Care Center, Attention Activities 47 East Main St., West Brookfield, MA 01585.

*In Loving Memory of*  
**MICHAEL J. SWISTAK**  
November 19, 1961 - April 17, 2010

**THERESA S. ZAGANIACZ**  
July 1, 1930 - April 29, 2018

**TEOFIL F. ZAGANIACZ**  
December 9, 1925 - April 27, 1982

A million times we've needed you,  
a million times we've cried  
If love alone could have saved you,  
you never would have died.  
In life we loved you dearly,  
In death we love you still.  
In our hearts you hold a place,  
no one can ever fill.  
It broke our hearts to lose you,  
but you didn't go alone,  
Part of us went with you,  
the day that GOD took you home.

We love and miss you all,

Mary Ann & Mark  
Blair & Andy  
Morgan & Beckett

# Church News

## Fitzgibbons called to serve congregations

By Paula Ouimette  
Staff writer

NEW BRAINTREE – Every other week for the past few months, the pulpit at the New Braintree Congregational Church, part of the Tri-Parish Community Church, was filled by Rev. Kathleen Fitzgibbons, an itinerant minister with strong ties to New Braintree. This past Sunday was her last week preaching to the congregation before getting ready to return to her cabin in Maine.

An elementary school principal for 26 years, Fitzgibbons first came to the area in 1985 when she worked at the New Braintree Grade School. She stayed close to 5 years before relocating to a school in Putnam, Connecticut. Fitzgibbons said, "in my other life I was an elementary school principal, but I always wanted to be a minister."

With her own children grown and out of the house, Fitzgibbons followed her dream and entered seminary school. She began at Bangor Theological Seminary in Maine about 20 years ago, and later went to Hartford Seminary, graduating in 2016. During this time, she worked as a lay minister, sharing God's message wherever she went. Now, Fitzgibbons travels Maine, as well as other states, as an itinerant minister.

"The work I do in the summer is at the church in Chesuncook Village, an unorganized territory in Maine. I live in a cabin across the lake. The Greater Northern Paper Company owned the village, but went out of date many years ago. They sold the land around the lake to the state of Maine," Fitzgibbons said. "I learned about the village church while in seminary in Bangor, it's about two hours



Turley Publications Courtesy photo

**The Rev. Kathleen Fitzgibbons has been serving Tri-Parish Community Church and will now return to Maine to serve different, more remote churches.**

from civilization," she said. The village is home to mostly seasonal residents and was even written about by noted author Henry David Thoreau in his book, "The Maine Woods." Fitzgibbons also preaches at small island churches off the coast of Maine, although last year she was unable to due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fitzgibbon has left a lasting impression on the communities she has been a part of, one of which being New Braintree. "I never knew anyone where I was going, I always felt the Lord sent me," Fitzgibbons said in referencing her travels during her career both as a principal and minister. Former coworker and lifelong friend

Julie Rousseau knew that her church community would benefit from Fitzgibbons' faith and leadership, and invited her to join them in her "off season." "Imagine my delight 36 years later, to be called to be minister at the New Braintree Congregational Church," Fitzgibbons said. "I always feel so comfortable there. The congregation is incredibly earnest and real seekers of God's will. They are wonderful people," she said. The Tri-Parish Community Church is currently searching for a part-time minister.

Fitzgibbons said Tri-Parish Community Church is similar to her churches in rural Maine. Many of those small

churches have become non-denominational and pool their resources together in order to stay open. She said Tri-Parish is unique because the parishioners split their time throughout the year at locations in Hardwick, Gilbertville and New Braintree. In addition to leading the church services every other Sunday, Fitzgibbons gave support and guidance to the committee in charge of finding a minister. She acted as a cheerleader for the committee as they drafted an advertisement to find the right person for the job. "The ad is out there, I know for sure there is just the right person to put in that place," Fitzgibbons said.

When asked what her favorite part of being a minister was, Fitzgibbons said, "I can stand up there after a great deal of study, planning and prayer, and present a message that is from the bible and make it be real to the people there. I see the people leaning in to hear what God's word is." Fitzgibbons emphasized the importance of reading the bible, as it is "a how-to book." She said it teaches people how to get along with others. "I knew how to know people because of what I learned from reading the bible," she said.

Being able to worship safely during the pandemic has proven a challenge for all area churches. From worshipping via Zoom, to holding services outdoors or from cars. Fitzgibbons said that many people have made the decision to stay away from in-person services, but people in New Braintree continue to worship each week, safely distanced and wearing facemasks. Fitzgibbons said, "I have deep respect for people who will hold fast for what they believe in."

## Local pastor offers sermon

### Names and Titles of Jesus Pt. 1

Scripture employs an array of varying titles used in reference to Jesus. Each provides some unique insight into His nature, mission and work. Moreover, each helps us to understand the role He should and must play in our lives, shaping how we live before Him. Few things in life are more critical than accurately understanding the character of Christ and your place in Him, as noted in the following selection from J. I. Packer:

"Knowing about God is crucially important for the living of our lives. As it would be cruel to an Amazonian tribesman to fly him to London, put him down without explanation of Trafalgar Square and leave him, as one who knew nothing of English or England, to fend for himself, so we are cruel to ourselves if we try to live in this world without knowing about the God whose world it is and who runs it. The world becomes a strange, mad, painful place, and life in it a disappointing and unpleasant business, for those who do not know about God. Disregard the study of God, and you sentence yourself to stumble and blunder through life blindfolded, as it were, with no sense of direction and no understanding of what surrounds you. This way you can waste your life and lose your soul."

What biblical designations are attributed to Christ? Please take the time to prayerfully reflect upon the following non-exhaustive list (with accompanying references):

1. Almighty One - "...who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty." Rev. 1:8  
2. Alpha and Omega - "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." Rev. 22:13  
3. Advocate - "My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if

anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One." 1 John 2:1

4. Author and Perfecter of Our Faith - "Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Heb. 12:2

5. Bread of Life - "Then Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'" John 6:35

6. Beloved Son of God - "And behold, a voice from heaven said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'" Matt. 3:17

7. Deliverer - "And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come." 1 Thess. 1:10

8. Faithful and True - "I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war." Rev. 19:11

9. Good Shepherd - "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." John 10:11

10. Immanuel - "...She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel, which means 'God with us.'" Isa. 7:14

11. Judge - "...he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead." Acts 10:42

12. Lamb of God - "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!'" John 1:29  
13. Light of the World - "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

14. Lord of All - "For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every

name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Phil. 2:9-11

15. Mediator - "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." 1 Tim. 2:5

16. Messiah - "'We have found the Messiah' (that is, the Christ)." John 1:41

17. Our Hope - "...Christ Jesus our hope." 1 Tim. 1:1

18. Peace - "For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility." Eph. 2:14

19. Redeemer - "And as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will take His stand on the earth." Job 19:25

20. Risen Lord - "...that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures." 1 Cor. 15:3-4

21. Sacrifice for Our Sins - "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins." 1 John 4:10  
22. Savior - "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11

23. Son of Man - "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Luke 19:10

24. Son of the Most High - "He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David." Luke 1:32

25. Creator Over All - "By Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together...." Col. 1:16-1

26. Resurrection and the Life - "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.'" John 11:25

27. The Door - "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture." John 10:9

28. The Way, Truth and Life - "Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'" John 14:6

29. The Word - "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:1

30. The True Vine - "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser." John 15:1

31-34. Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace - "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Is. 9:6

Wow, what a list. Of course, it is quite possible that the meanings of some of these terms elude you. If so, I would like to take the next few weeks to address a selection of Jesus' titles, considering their significance and implications for life and living. In the meantime, I would love to hear from you should you desire to learn more about Him. Contact me at your convenience using the information below. Also, feel free to check us out online at [www.NewLifeBarre.org](http://www.NewLifeBarre.org) or visit us in person each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. COVID-19 protocols are presented on our website. We hope to see you soon.

**Pastor James Foley**  
New Life Assembly of God,  
South Barre  
jamesfoley@newlifebarre.org  
or 978-355-6407



# Public Safety

## Barre Police Log

<b>Sunday, April 4</b> 11:41 a.m. Complaint Main Street – Investigated	5:36 p.m. Overdose/Poisoning Vernon Avenue – Transported to Hospital	<b>Friday, April 9</b> 11:42 a.m. Serve Warrant Summer Street – Arrest(s) Made Arrest: Dennis D. Cross, 19, Barre Warrant 7:54 p.m. Larceny/Theft Summer Street – Property Returned
<b>Monday, April 5</b> 9:06 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire Worcester Road – Transported to Hospital	<b>Wednesday, April 7</b> 10:56 a.m. Illegal Dumping South Street – Officer Spoke to Party 3:54 p.m. Complaint South Street – Officer Spoke to Party 4:36 p.m. Fraud Hancock Road – Officer Advised	<b>Saturday, April 10</b> 11:31 a.m. Larceny/Theft Old Coldbrook Road – Officer Spoke to Party
<b>Tuesday, April 6</b> 1:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Wheelwright Road – Criminal Complaint Summons: Tiffany L. Fielding, 30, South Barre Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Unregistered Motor Vehicle; Inspection/Sticker, No	<b>Thursday, April 8</b> 5:09 p.m. Harassment South Street – Officer Spoke to Party 5:22 p.m. Structure Fires West Street – Fire Extinguished	<b>SOUTH BARRE</b> <b>Friday, April 9</b> 7:52 a.m. Missing Person Fir Street – Officer Took Call

## Hardwick Police Log

During the weeks of April 5-12, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 70 building/property checks, 30 directed/area patrols, 7 radar assignments, 12 traffic controls, 5 emergency 911 calls, 54 motor vehicle stops, 2 safety hazards, 1 scam, 1 harassment, 5 complaints, 1 motor vehicle accident, 4 animal calls and 1 trespass in the town of Hardwick.	8:21 p.m. Phone – Motor Vehicle Accident Greenwich Road – Negative Contact	<b>Thursday, April 8</b> 10:30 a.m. Phone – Harassment Main Street – Spoken To 12:07 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Church Street – Taken/Referred to Other Agency 6 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Hardwick Road – Written Warning
<b>Monday, April 5</b> 9:13 a.m. 911 – Hang-up Call Old Petersham Road – Spoken To 3:31 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Petersham Road – Citation Issued 4:16 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 4:21 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Czesky Road – Taken/Referred to Other Agency 5:10 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Hardwick Road – Written Warning 5:53 p.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Church Lane – Transported to Hospital 6:34 p.m. 911 – Complaint Broad Street – Investigated 8:15 p.m. 911 – Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations Lower Road – Negative Contact	<b>Tuesday, April 6</b> 7:58 a.m. 911 – Fire, Structure Greenwich Road – Extinguished 2:13 p.m. 911 – Animal Call North Road – Taken/Referred to Other Agency 3:08 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Church Street – Written Warning 5:19 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 3:58 p.m. Phone – Scam Lucas Road – Officer Handled 4:18 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 5:24 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 5:46 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Mechanic Street – Vehicle Towed 6:34 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning	<b>Friday, April 9</b> 2:27 p.m. Phone – Medical Alarm Hardwick Road – Transported to Hospital 4:30 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Written Warning 5:19 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Petersham Road – Citation Issued
	<b>Wednesday, April 7</b> 4:41 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Lower Road – Citation Issued 5:08 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Lower Road – Citation Issued	<b>Saturday, April 10</b> 5:25 p.m. Phone – Complaint Mechanic Street – Unfounded 5:42 p.m. Phone – Complaint Greenwich Road – Report Taken 7:54 p.m. Phone – Complaint Prouty Road – Spoken To 8:22 p.m. Phone – Complaint Prouty Road – Transferred Call to C7
		<b>Sunday, April 11</b> 4:33 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Written Warning

## Petersham Police Log

<b>Monday, March 1</b> 9:34 p.m. Safety Hazard North Main Street – Taken/Referred to Other Agency	<b>Sunday, March 7</b> 8:32 a.m. 911/Hang-up Call East Street – Spoken To	8:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Common Street – Vehicle Towed
<b>Tuesday, March 2</b> 5:25 a.m. Safety Hazard South Street – Taken/Referred to Other Agency 6:07 a.m. Safety Hazard Hardwick Road – Taken/Referred to Other Agency 6:17 a.m. 911 Misdial Nichewaug Road – Spoken TO 9:52 a.m. Safety Hazard Monson Turnpike Road – Taken/Referred to Other Agency 10:35 a.m. Safety Hazard Monson Turnpike Road – Dispatch Handled	<b>Tuesday, March 9</b> 4:31 p.m. Medical Emergency Rte. 32A – Transported to Hospital	<b>Thursday, March 25</b> 8:19 p.m. 911 – Misdial Hardwick Road – Services Rendered
<b>Wednesday, March 3</b> 2:36 p.m. 911 Misdial New Salem Road – Services Rendered	<b>Wednesday, March 10</b> 12:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop North Main Street – Written Warning 12:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop North Main Street – Written Warning	<b>Friday, March 26</b> 4:38 p.m. Fraud Birch Drive – Report Taken 4:48 p.m. Fire, Other South Main Street – Services Rendered 4:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident Old East Street – Services Rendered
<b>Thursday, March 4</b> 3:05 p.m. Missing Person High Street – Services Rendered 3:37 p.m. 911 Misdial Popple Camp Road – Services Rendered 7:51 p.m. Safety Hazard South Street – Removed Hazard	<b>Sunday, March 14</b> 4:36 p.m. Alarm North Main Street – Taken/Referred to Other Agency	<b>Saturday, March 27</b> 8:59 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop New Salem Road – Citation Issued 11:07 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Main Street – Citation Issued 11:29 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop North Main Street – Written Warning 2:29 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Main Street – Written Warning
<b>Saturday, March 6</b> 9:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop North Main Street – Written Warning 11:57 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Written Warning 2:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Main Street – Citation Issued 11:44 p.m. 911/Hang-up Call East Street – Transferred Call to C1	<b>Monday, March 15</b> 1:35 p.m. Scam Birch Drive – Investigated 4:21 p.m. Safety Hazard Nelson Road – Taken/Referred to Other Agency 5:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop North Main Street – Written Warning	<b>Sunday, March 28</b> 2:30 p.m. Medical Emergency North Main Street – Transported to Hospital
	<b>Thursday, March 18</b> 8:18 a.m. Scam Common Street – No Action Required	<b>Monday, March 29</b> 11:21 a.m. Safety Hazard New Salem Road – Removed Hazard 1:16 p.m. Safety Hazard Popple Camp Road – Taken/Referred to Other Agency
	<b>Saturday, March 20</b> 12:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Main Street – Citation Issued	<b>Tuesday, March 30</b> 3:28 p.m. Fire, Brush South Street – Extinguished
	<b>Monday, March 22</b> 5:22 p.m. Medical Emergency North Main Street – Transported to Hospital	<b>Wednesday, March 31</b> 7:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop North Main Street – Citation Issued
	<b>Wednesday, March 24</b> 8:55 a.m. Medical Emergency Monson Turnpike Road – Transported to Hospital	

## Oakham Police Log

<b>Monday, April 5</b> 10:25 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problems Spencer Road – Transported to Hospital 5:47 p.m. Illegal Dumping	Coldbrook Road – Information Given	<b>Saturday, April 10</b> 3:46 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Old Turnpike Road – Citation Issued
	<b>Wednesday, April 7</b> 8:29 p.m. Neighbor Dispute Bechan Road – Report Filed	

## New Braintree Police Log

During the weeks of April 5-12, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 20 building/property checks, 17 directed/area patrols, 10 radar assignments, 7 traffic controls, 4 emergency 911 calls, 1 motor vehicle stop, 1 motor vehicle accident and 1 complaint in the town of New Braintree.	<b>Tuesday, April 6</b> 2:41 a.m. 911 – Suspicious Activity Worcester Road – Protective Custody	<b>Saturday, April 10</b> 7:57 p.m. 911 – Motor Vehicle Accident West Road – Arrest(s) Made 8:19 p.m. 911 – Misdial Tucker Road – Transferred Call to C3 8:23 p.m. Phone – Complaint Ravine Road – Transferred Call to C3
	<b>Wednesday, April 7</b> 11:36 a.m. 911 – Fire, Other Worcester Road – Unknown Outcome	

## NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Barre Gazette, please email edowner@turley.com.

## Rutland Police Log

<b>Sunday, April 4</b> 6:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire Main Street – Report Filed	8:55 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Paxton Road – Written Warning 9:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Paxton Road – Written Warning 10:22 a.m. Fraud/Forgery Central Tree Road – Officer Spoke to Party 3:52 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop East County Road – Written Warning	Pommogussett Road – Written Warning 8:33 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning 9:10 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Maple Avenue – Written Warning 9:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Brunelle Drive – Written Warning 10:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pleasantdale Road – Written Warning 10:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 11:01 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 11:16 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Maple Avenue – Written Warning 1:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Miles Road – Vehicle Towed Summons: Matthew H. Clark, 32, Southbridge Registration Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With; Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle; Drug, Possess Class B; Drug, Possess Class B 11:08 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire Charnock Hill Road – Transported to Hospital
<b>Monday, April 5</b> 10:17 a.m. Animal Bite Johnson Way – Officer Advised 10:25 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problems Spencer Road – Transported to Hospital 11:05 a.m. Sick/Unknown Kenwood Drive – Transported to Hospital 5:17 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Arrest(s) Made Summons: Gilmar F. Pereira, 42, Leominster Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle 6:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 6:51 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 8:24 p.m. Fire Alarm Activation East County Road – Services Rendered 11:10 p.m. Breathing Difficult Miles Road – Transported to Hospital	<b>Thursday, April 8</b> 5:40 a.m. Sick/Unknown Ridge Road – Transported to Hospital 7:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning 7:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning 7:45 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning 8:05 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 8:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning 8:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 8:34 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning 10:17 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problems Prescott Street – Transported to Hospital 10:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Citation Issued Summons: Dylan M. Sanborn, 23, Athol Inspection/Sticker, No; Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle 10:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Paddock Road – Citation Issued 10:55 a.m. Fraud/Forgery Main Street – Officer Spoke to Party 9:04 p.m. Missing Person Main Street – Returned to Family/Guardian	<b>Saturday, April 10</b> 8:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued 10:28 a.m. Harassing/Annoying Phone Calls Main Street – Officer Spoke to Party 11:54 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Maple Avenue – Citation Issued 12 p.m. Harassing/Annoying Phone Calls Main Street – Services Rendered 12:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Vehicle Towed Summons: Alex R. Lema Lala, 23, New Bedford Inspection/Sticker, No; Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle 9:18 p.m. Erratic Operator Main Street – Services Rendered Arrest: Benjamin P. Dang, 19, Auburn OUI-Drugs; OUI-Liquor or .08%; Drug, Possess to Distribute Class D (Marijuana); Marked Lanes Violation
<b>Tuesday, April 6</b> 8:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued 2:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Arrest(s) Made Arrest: Charles E. Lesloe, Jr., 56, Keene, NH License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With 5:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Criminal Complaint Summons: Steven P. Hooten, 64, Templeton Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle 5:52 p.m. Breaking and Entering Past Commercial Miles Road – Report Filed 8:50 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop East County Road – Written Warning	<b>Friday, April 9</b> 7:14 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 7:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning 7:43 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning 7:52 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning 8:08 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop	
<b>Wednesday, April 7</b> 7 a.m. Vandalism Wheeler Road – Officer Spoke to Party		

## Hubbardston Police Log

<b>Sunday, April 4</b> 9:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued	Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle 3:44 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Criminal Complaint Summons: Marilou G. Dawson, 48, Foxboro Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Registration Revoked, Operate Motor Vehicle With 5:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Williamsville Road – Criminal Complaint Summons: Neil P. Curran, 21, Hubbardston License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With	License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With 11:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire Adams Road – Transported to Hospital Summons: Alex R. Aubin, 30, Sterling Snow/Recreation Vehicle – Helmet Violation Summons: Charles A. Hobbs, 30, Barre Snow/Recreation Vehicle – Helmet Violation; Snow/Recreation Vehicle – Negligent/Reckless Operation; Snow/Recreation Vehicle – OUI by +21 – Liquor or .08%; Snow/Recreation Vehicle – Public Way Violation; Snow/Recreation Vehicle – Unregistered
<b>Monday, April 5</b> 12:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Vehicle Towed Summons: Carolin M. Dos Santos, 41, Leominster Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle	<b>Tuesday, April 6</b> 10:51 a.m. Fire Alarm Activation Madison Way – Services Rendered 6:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Madison Way – Criminal Complaint 6:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued	<b>Saturday, April 10</b> 7:50 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint Dogwood South Road – Officer Spoke to Party
<b>Tuesday, April 6</b> 10:51 a.m. Fire Alarm Activation Madison Way – Services Rendered 6:45 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Madison Way – Criminal Complaint 6:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued	<b>Friday, April 9</b> 8:18 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire Main Street – Transported to Hospital 1:09 p.m. Sick/Unknown Barre Road – No Fire Service Necessary 2:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Gardner Road – Criminal Complaint Summons: Zachary Fairchild, 29, Athol Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle 7:14 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Gardner Road – Criminal Complaint Summons: Marcus B. Valenti, 23, Woodstock, CT	<b>Sunday, April 11</b> 1:21 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Williamsville Road – Criminal Complaint Summons: Daniel J. Rich, 22, Barre Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Unregistered Motor Vehicle; Number Plate Violation to Conceal ID; Speeding
<b>Wednesday, April 7</b> 12:08 p.m. Seizures Elm Street – Transported to Hospital 5:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Gardner Road – Citation Issued 5:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Gardner Road – Written Warning	<b>Thursday, April 8</b> 9:32 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop New Templeton Road – Criminal Complaint Summons: Harriet Mutesi, 34, Athol	

## Pedestrian fatalities soar across the nation

Over a 10-year period, the number of pedestrians killed in motor vehicle crashes on America's roadways increased by a staggering 55%, according to a new report from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. The dramatic rise in deaths from 2009-2018 followed three decades of declines.

In Massachusetts, there were 725 pedestrians killed during that ten-year period, as well as 122 in Rhode Island and 439 in Connecticut. California, with just under 7,500, accounted for the largest number of the 51,000 deaths.

In the Bay State, 17,000 pedestrians were injured, with Boston, Springfield, Worcester, New Bedford and Brockton seeing the greatest number of fatalities and injuries. Pedestrian injuries occurred most often between the hours of 3-7 p.m. and seniors are especially at risk: over the decade in Massachusetts more than 200 of the 725 killed were 65 or older.

The AAA Foundation report found:

A total of 6,374 pedestrians were killed in crashes with motor vehicles in 2018, representing a 55% increase from 4,109 a decade earlier and the highest number since 1990. Pedestrian fatal-

ities among people ages 60-69 more than doubled over the past decade, from 436 in 2009 to 943 in 2018. Deaths of pedestrians in their fifties, sixties and seventies all increased faster than the national average for pedestrians of all ages. The number of children and teens killed as pedestrians decreased slightly, the only groups for whom pedestrian fatalities decreased.

Three of every four pedestrians killed on U.S. roads in 2018 were struck in darkness. Fatalities in darkness accounted for the vast majority of the increase in pedestrian fatalities over the past decade. The number of pedestrians killed in darkness in 2018 was larger than the total number of pedestrians killed in any and all lighting conditions in 2009, 2010, or 2011.

Eighty-four % of all pedestrian fatalities in 2018, and 84% of the overall increase in pedestrian fatalities over the study period, occurred on roads with speed limits of 30 mph or higher.

Pedestrians killed at non-intersection locations without crosswalks rose 70% over the decade.

Thirty-two% of all pedestrians, who died, had a blood alcohol concentration equal to or greater than the legal limit for driving. However, sober pedestrians' fatal-

ities increased by a larger amount over the study period, both in raw numbers and on a percentage basis. The number of sober pedestrians killed in 2018 was nearly as large as the total number of pedestrians killed in 2009.

AAA urges state and local transportation planning authorities to prioritize pedestrian safety and address this rising problem. AAA recommends: Sidewalks should be installed in areas that are frequently traveled by pedestrians, with an increased focus on older pedestrian safety. There be more emphasis on traffic education in schools at all levels, including school safety patrols, adult crossing guards, police and traffic control signs, signals, and markings. State and local governments are encouraged to develop traffic safety public information programs aimed at communities with large populations of new immigrants unfamiliar with local traffic rules and customs.

AAA Northeast is a not-for-profit auto club with 70 offices in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, New Hampshire and New York, providing more than 6 million local AAA members with travel, insurance, finance and auto-related services.

THE BARRE GAZETTE – *Serving the towns of Barre, Hardwick, Hubbardston, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Oakham, Petersham & Rutland since 1834*



Public Notices

BARRE PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

The Barre Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 7:15 p.m. via Zoom** requested by Michael & Jacqueline Collins for a special permit for the use of camper/trailer during the construction of dwelling for a period of six to eight months as sited in the Town of Barre Code 140-7(B)(13) for property located at 55 Eagle Drive, Assessors Map D, Lot 151 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds Book #61371, Page 49.

All interested parties who wish to comment on this matter should attend the hearing via Zoom or submit comments in writing prior to the hearing to the Planning Board.

Douglas Martin  
Chairman  
4/08, 4/15/2021

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508)831-2000 Docket No. WO19P1757EA Estate of: Bradley W Brown Date of Death: 04/26/2019 CITATION ON PETITIONFOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **William M Brown** of Barre MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, **First and Final** and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/11/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by

which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. **Leilah A Kearny**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: April 07, 2021  
**Stephanie Fattman**  
Register of Probate  
04/15/2021

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Christopher L. Eldredge to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for America's Wholesale Lender, dated March 23, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 40890, Page 128 of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for America's Wholesale Lender to The Bank of New York Mellon, as Trustee for the Certificateholders, CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-7, recorded on January 15, 2010, in Book No. 45355, at Page 331  
Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for America's Wholesale Lender to The Bank of New York Mellon fka The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the Certificateholders of the CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-7, recorded on May 29, 2012, in Book No. 49039, at Page 163

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **3:00 PM on May 6, 2021**, on the mortgaged premises located at 3234 Greenwich Road a/k/a 3208 Greenwich Road, Hardwick, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT:  
A certain parcel of land, with the buildings thereon, situated on the westerly side of Greenwich Road, in Hardwick, MA and being shown as Lot # 3 on a plan of land owned by Karl D. Germain and Brenda L. Germain dated April 10, 1989, by Donald A. Para, R.L.S. and recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 619, Plan 91. Beginning at an iron pipe at the northeasterly corner of lot herein described, on the westerly side of Greenwich Road and at the south-easterly corner of Lot #4. THENCE: S. 8 degrees 43' 26" W. along the westerly side of Greenwich Road, 213.18 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: N. 56 degrees 26' 19" W. along Lot # 2, 285.35 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: N. 54 degrees 14' 8" W. along Lot # 2 960.65 feet to a gun barrel; THENCE: N. 27 degrees 16' 55" E. along land now or formerly of Louis H. and Angelina Labier, 100.00 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: S. 60 degrees 23' 00" E. along Lot# 4 696.24 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: S. 34 degrees 23' 6" E along Lot # 4 177.21 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: N. 89 degrees 7' 35" E along Lot # 4 72.00 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: S. 69 degrees 8' 25" E. along Lot # 4 69.97 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: N. 74 degrees 42' 6" E along Lot # 4 42.65 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: S. 60 degrees 36' 8" E. along Lot # 4 153.04 feet to the point of beginning. Being the same premises conveyed to me by Deed of Lu-Ann J. Eldredge dated April 6, 2006 and recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds at Book 38743, Page 264.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38743, Page 264.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and

all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

**Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.**

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CWABS, INC., A S S E T - B A C K E D CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-7

Present holder of said mortgage  
By its Attorneys,

HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.  
150 California St.  
Newton, MA 02458  
(617)558-0500  
19755  
04/15, 04/22, 04/29/2021

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Richard B. Dickman and Pamela A. Dickman, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Merrimack Mortgage Company, Inc., dated July 22, 2003, and recorded

with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 30964 at Page 312, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Merrimack Mortgage Company, Inc., to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, dated April 22, 2015, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 53675, Page 103; by assignment from JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., to MTGLQ Investors, L.P., dated January 22, 2016, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54958, Page 29; by assignment from MTGLQ Investors, L.P., to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of Tiki Series IV Trust, dated April 28, 2020, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 62536, Page 37; and by an assignment from U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of Dwelling Series IV Trust, dated October 23, 2020, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 63964, Page 363, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at **1:00 P.M. on the 23rd day of April, 2021**, at 91 Crawford Road, Oakham, MA 01068, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To wit:  
The land, with the buildings thereon, in Oakham, Worcester County, Massachusetts on the northerly side of Crawford Road and bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the northerly line of said road at a corner of land now or formerly of John C. Dixon et ux;

THENCE by said Dixon land N. 26° 27' E., 193.53 feet to an iron pin;

THENCE still by said Dixon land N. 7° 22' W., 161.40 feet to an iron pin;

THENCE N. 66° 15'

W., 193 feet to a point;  
THENCE N. 69° 05' 30" W., 72.16 feet to a point;

THENCE S 19° 50' 20" W., 254.67 feet to a point by an unknown owner;

THENCE easterly by Crawford Road 330.06 feet more or less to a drill hole at the point of beginning.

Being all of parcel 3 and the remainder of Parcel 1 as shown on Plan of Property owned by Kasta Peter et ux, dated Mar 5, 1961, by Theodore Drazek, C.E.

BEING the same premises conveyed to Mortgagors by deed recorded in Book 23663, Page 94.

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

**Terms of sale:** A deposit of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Demerle Hoeger LLP, 10 City Square, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02129 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control.

**Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.**

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of Dwelling Series IV Trust,

Present holder of said mortgage,

By its Attorneys,  
Demerle Hoeger LLP  
10 City Square, 4th Floor  
Boston, MA 02129  
(617) 337-4444  
04/01, 04/08, 04/15/2021

Legal Notice Town of Barre, MA Request for Proposals for Information Consulting Services

The Towns of Barre and Rutland are seeking proposals from qualified firms, hereinafter referred to as the IT Consultant to provide the Town of Barre, Town of Rutland and Rutland Regional Emergency Communications Center (RRECC) with computer network administration and information technology technical assistance to the Town offices and departments.

The Towns of Barre and Rutland reserve the right to reject any or all proposals or to cancel this Request for Proposals if it is in the Towns' best interests to do so. The Town has determined that this contract is subject to the Uniform Procurement Act, G.L. c. 30B. Therefore, the provisions of G.L. c.30B are hereby incorporated by reference as this Request for Proposals. The Town is seeking to enter into a three year contract, commencing on July 1, 2021. The requested scope of services is attached. A bid package may be obtained from the Town of Barre Town Administrator Jessica Sizer at 40 West Street, Barre, MA 01005 and by email at jsizer@townofbarre.com. RFP submittals are due **no later than April 29, 2021 at 4pm.**

**Jessica Sizer**  
Town Administrator  
04/15/2021

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508)831-2200 Docket No. WO21P1224EA Estate of: Keith A Delman Date of Death: 02/01/2021 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION To all interested persons: A Petition for **Formal**

**Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Vincent Vilkas** of Shrewsbury, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Vincent Vilkas** of Shrewsbury, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in a **supervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/11/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Leilah A Keamy**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: April 08, 2021  
**Stephanie K. Fattman**  
Register of Probate  
04/15/2021

Omnibus legislation aims at addressing pyrrhotite issue

BOSTON – Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) filed omnibus legislation aimed at addressing the crumbling foundation issue that has plagued homeowners in the south central part of the state, including homes in Charlton, Monson, Brimfield, Palmer, Longmeadow and elsewhere, whose home foundations are deteriorating due to the presence of pyrrhotite.

The legislation comes in the wake of a report filed last year by the legislative Special Commission established to study the issue and aims to address a number of the commission's recommendations. These include establishing tax

assist homeowners who, through no fault of their own, are faced with the devastating news that their homes foundation is failing. I appreciate the good work of the commission in focusing on areas that can bring relief and I look forward to continuing to work to get these provisions implemented."

The defective concrete in question originated from the JJ Mottes Concrete Company in Stafford Springs, Connecticut during the years 1983 to 2015 and was sourced from Becker's Quarry in Willington, Connecticut. Pyrrhotite is rare and this location is one of the few in North America where the mineral may be found. Since the early 1980s, Becker's Quarry was the primary source of the stone aggregate used by JJ Mottes to produce concrete and they have been the only company identified that produced material connected to the deteriorating foundations.

Pyrrhotite causes the slow deterioration of the concrete when exposed to oxygen and

water. When present in the aggregate material used to make concrete, the building material itself becomes compromised as water and air enter through small cracks and holes, allowing the iron sulfides to begin breaking down, expanding and allowing more water and air to enter. While the presence of pyrrhotite indicates the potential for concrete deterioration, its existence alone does not necessarily cause it. At this time there is no minimum level of pyrrhotite that is deemed acceptable for use and homes with small amount of pyrrhotite (less than 0.3%) can still experience crumbling foundations.

The cracking starts small and may take more than 10 years to over 30 years to appear. As the concrete deteriorates it often becomes structurally unsound and the damage is irreversible. The only permanent solution at this time to fully replace the impacted foundation with a new foundation that does not contain pyrrhotite.

The pyrrhotite issue has been studied extensively and addressed

by the Connecticut legislature, which moved to develop a captive insurance company funded by bonding and a surcharge on homeowners' insurance policies in order to help the thousands of residents, who have been affected. In Massachusetts the scope of this issue is still unknown, but the Special Commission did identify 95,073 homes built within the aforementioned time period that fit inside the distance parameters.

The bill filed by the Senator, SD. 1688, An Act Relative to Crumbling Concrete Foundations, aims to address a number of the primary concerns raised by the Special Commission last year. The main points aspects of the bill are outlined here:

Establishes new standards for entities seeking a permit to mine or expand a quarry to include a test for pyrrhotite, and requiring that producers of concrete and aggregate products maintain a record of the aggregate source in their concrete batches.

Allows for affected homeowners

to apply for residential property tax abatements with their board of assessors until the foundation is able to be repaired or replaced.

Waves all building permit fees for work associated with crumbling foundation replacement work

Requires that homeowners looking to sell their home disclose to a potential purchaser whether they have had any testing or repairs done to their foundation.

There remains in place a foundation testing program allowing residents to be reimbursed for the costs associated with visual and core testing, which Gobi was able to secure originally in the FY19 budget cycle. That program allows homeowners to be reimbursed at a rate of 100% for visual testing conducted by a licensed professional engineer up to \$400 and a rate of 75% for core sample testing up to \$5,000.

For more information on the bill or the foundation testing program, people may contact Senator Gobi's office by email at Anne.Gobi@MASenate.gov.

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Barre Gazette

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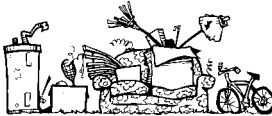
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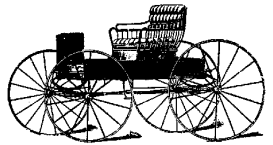
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21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
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# Second Chance seeks funds to Southbridge Veterinary Hospital

SOUTHBIDGE – Work on the Southbridge Community Veterinary Hospital and Bay Path Veterinary Center at Second Chance continues as Second Chance looks to secure an additional \$100,000 in funding to cover cost increases incurred due to COVID.

Second Chance CEO Sheryl Blancato, who publicly announced the \$1,000,000 project in December of 2019, has worked to keep the project on track despite the challenges of 2020. “We

designed this project in 2019 to help provide access to veterinary care for pets in the very underserved Southbridge community. In the year that followed, the needs of pets in the community have only increased and we could not let them down.”

Blancato notes that the rise in material costs due to the COVID-related lumber shortage is just part of the project cost increase. Bay Path students, who were scheduled to help with many aspects of the project, were sidelined in the

spring when schools had to move to a virtual model. Additional contractors had to be hired to keep the project on track. While the students are now back on site, their time has been limited, faced with a hybrid schedule in addition to finishing up last year’s Bay Path home project.

Businesses and individuals interested in supporting the project are encouraged to visit [www.secondchanceanimals.org/southbridge](http://www.secondchanceanimals.org/southbridge) to view sponsorship opportunities.

Second Chance is grateful to

all the generous funders who are making this project possible. The full-service hospital is expected to open in the summer of 2021 to serve clients year-round and serve as a teaching hospital for Bay Path Regional Vocational/Technical high school students interested in pursuing a career in the veterinary field.

Second Chance is focused on keeping pets out of the shelter in the first place. Access to medical care is one of the most often cited reasons people surrender their

pets. Second Chance veterinary hospitals provide that access to all. For qualified households, medical care is available at a subsidized rate. Clients, who don’t qualify, know the cost of caring for their pets is also helping pets in need.

Second Chance Animal Services is a nonprofit animal welfare organization founded in 1999. Second Chance began as an animal shelter and grew to help more pets in need. Today SCAS operates three Community Veterinary Hospitals in North Brookfield, Springfield and Worcester providing access to the highest-quality veterinary care for all. Subsidized rates are provided to underserved communities to ensure access to care for all pets in need. Second Chance helps over 40,000 pets a year through full-service veterinary care, spay/neuter services, adoption services, community and educational outreach programs, training and a pet food pantry. For more information, people may visit Second Chance’s website at [www.secondchanceanimals.org](http://www.secondchanceanimals.org).

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